

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CULTURE

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1297
TO BE ANSWERED ON 14.12.2023

SHORTFALLS IN BUDGETARY ALLOCATION AND GENERATION OF FUNDS

1297. SHRI NIRANJAN BISHI:
SMT. SULATA DEO:

Will the Minister of **Culture** be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether Government is aware of the shortfalls in budgetary allocation against the demands made by the Ministry;
- (b) whether Government is aware that funds for preserving art and culture can also be raised to through private organizations under the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiative, which is the prominent way of raising funds in foreign countries; and
- (c) if so, the actions taken in this regard, if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF CULTURE, TOURISM AND DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN
REGION

(G.KISHAN REDDY)

- (a) Ministry of Culture was allocated Rs. 3399.65 crore in BE 2023-24. This is an increase of Rs.390.05 cr from BE 2022-23 (Rs. 3009.05 cr) and an increase of Rs.36.58 cr from RE 2022-23 (3363.07 cr).
- (b) & (c) Yes Sir. Recently, a revamped version of the erstwhile project initially launched by the Ministry of Tourism as 'Adopt a Heritage: Apni Dharohar, Apni Pehchan', titled as "Adopt a Heritage Program 2.0" has been launched exclusively by ASI for Centrally Protected Monuments and Sites (CPMS) which envisages creating a framework for engaging with the private/public sector companies in order to develop/ provide group of amenities at CPMS through CSR funds to enhance visitor's experience with a view to make them visitor friendly wherein the stakeholders are permitted to be engaged only for non-conservational aspects viz., provide and maintain basic tourist amenities like washroom, drinking water, child care room, benches, pathways, garbage bins, signage, S&L shows, illumination etc. under the guidance as well as due consultation with ASI.

However, the work related with archaeological conservation and preservation of CPMS is to be exclusively attended by the experts of ASI only within their own allotted budget.

Further, Government has set up the National Culture Fund (NCF) as a Trust on 28th November, 1996 under the Charitable Endowment Act, 1890 with a view to mobilize extra resources through Public Private Partnerships (PPP) towards promoting, protecting and preserving India's cultural heritage. Such resources are to be mobilized through donation and contributions from PSUs, bank and profit making private companies. Cultural activities like "Protection of national heritage, art and culture including restoration of buildings and sites of historical importance and works of art; setting up public libraries; promotion and development of traditional arts and handicrafts" are covered under Schedule VII No. (v) of the Companies Act, 2013 as valid receptacle of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) contributions. Such initiatives make contributions through NCF more attractive/ engaging endeavour for promotion of cultural heritage of India.
