

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CULTURE
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.779
ANSWERED ON 08/02/2024

SETTING UP OF NATIONAL CULTURE FUND

779. DR. DHARMASTHALA VEERENDRA HEGGADE:

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has set up National Culture Fund (NCF) as a Trust under the Charitable Endowment Act, 1890;
- (b) if so, the objectives, features and role of NCF;
- (c) whether the progress of all projects approved by the NCF under PPP mode are regularly monitored by the Project Implementation Committee and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the criteria set up by Government for the donor/sponsor agencies which have been entrusted the responsibility of maintaining the protected monuments/ cultural projects; and
- (e) whether the said donor/sponsor agencies are complying with these norms and criteria and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE, TOURISM AND DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION

(SHRI G.KISHAN REDDY)

(a) & (b) Yes, Sir. Government has set up National Culture Fund (NCF) as a Trust on 28th November, 1996 under the Charitable Endowment Act, 1890. NCF's objective is to mobilize extra resources through Public Private Partnerships (PPP) towards promoting, protecting and preserving India's cultural tangible & intangible heritage. Under this mode NCF & the partnering agencies become a part of the MoU for agreed projects and NCF plays an important role in getting the projects implemented as per norms. Moreover, NCF provides the donor/sponsor the flexibility to indicate a project along with any specific location/aspect and also an implementing agency for execution of the project.

(c) Yes, sir. To ensure that the projects supported by NCF under PPP mode do not get delayed, meeting of Project Implementation Committee (PIC) under the Chairmanship of Director General, Archaeological Survey of India for ASI projects & Officials of NCF/Ministry of Culture for other projects, are regularly convened, to monitor progress and smooth implementation of the projects.

(d) & (e) NCF can receive donations from Corporates, PSUs, PSBs, Trusts and even Individuals for maintenance and preservation of Centrally Projected monuments/ cultural projects, and enabling them to avail 100% tax benefits. All donors/sponsors have the responsibility to comply with the terms & conditions of the MoU agreed for any particular project.
