

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CULTURE
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 622
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06TH FEB, 2017
MAGHA 17, 1938 (SAKA)**

**STRENGTHENING OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF INDIA OFFICE
IN BHUBANESWAR**

622: SHRI BALABHADRA MAJHI:

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government has taken any steps to strengthen Archaeological Survey of India Offices in the country particularly at Bhubaneswar with required laboratory facilities and technical manpower for issue of non-antiquity certificate in time in order to boost export oriented handicraft industries;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard along with the time by which the said process will be completed?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE, CULTURE AND TOURISM (INDEPENDENT
CHARGE)**

(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)

(a), (b)&(c) The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has established laboratories in various field offices including Bhubaneswar Circle for conducting scientific study of Archaeological material. For purpose of issuing non-antiquity certificate an Expert Advisory Committee has been constituted under the chairmanship of Superintending Archaeologist, Bhubaneswar Circle. The committee meets as and when handicraft objects are brought by exporter for issuing non-antiquity certificate. Presently, no request for issuing non-antiquity certificate is pending with ASI, Bhubaneswar Circle.