

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO 1199
TO BE ANSWERED ON 22.12.2017

Zoological Survey of India Building

1199. SHRIMATI POONAM MAHAJAN

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Zoological Survey of India (ZSI) building based in Kolkata is in a dilapidated condition and if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (b) whether the Government has taken cognisance that due to the limited resources, authorities are unable to preserve valuable specimens properly and if so, the details thereof along with the action taken to preserve the specimen with modern technologies; and
- (c) the time frame by which the entire building of ZSI is likely to be upgraded and modernised in a time bound manner?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)

(a) The Zoological Survey of India's Headquarter building based in Kolkata was constructed more than 30 years back and only recently during the centenary celebrations of ZSI in 2016-17, the whole building has undergone a thorough up-gradation and modernization.

(b) Recently administrative approval and financial sanction has been given to ZSI to modernise the whole office building especially the collection halls where valuable specimens numbering more than a million, collected over a period of 100 years are kept. To prevent the specimens from getting damaged due to high humidity in Kolkata, an approval to install VRF AC units and air-proof sliding windows was given and this work is nearing completion.

(c) Administrative approvals and expenditure sanctions are being given to proposals as and when they are being received, after following the laid down procedures.
