## GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF CULTURE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED OUESTION NO. 5104

#### ANSWERED ON 03.04.2023

### CONSTRUCTION OF NEW MUSEUM IN NATIONAL CAPITAL

#### 5104. SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL:

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken any new steps/proposal for the maintenance and conservation of monuments and antiquities brought back by the Indian Government in the recent years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government plans to construct a new museum in the national capital for repatriated antiquities brought back by the Government since 2014; and
- (d) the details of the initiatives taken by the Government to ensure that all national museums are updated with the latest gadgets and technology?

#### **ANSWER**

# MINISTER OF CULTURE, TOURISM AND DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)

- (a) Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has 3696 Centrally Protected Monuments and Sites
- & in the country and takes up conservation and maintenance of the monuments as per the
- (b) requirement and availability of resources. A total number of 231 antiquities were brought back by Government of India since 2014 from various countries.
- (c) ASI has a "Gallery of Confiscated and Retrieved Antiquities" in Purana Qila (Old Fort), New Delhi which is dedicated to the repatriated antiquities brought back by the government.
- (d) ASI continuously strives to upgrade museums under its jurisdiction by incorporation of digital technology, such as AR-VR, digital display and audio visual equipments etc. as per the availability of space and requirements of the museum.