GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF CULTURE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2331 ANSWERED ON 18.12.2023

PRESERVATION OF HINDU RELIGIOUS CULTURAL HERITAGE UNDER ASI

†2331. SHRI GOPAL CHINNAYA SHETTY:

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether temples of Hindu civilization existed or temples of Hindu Gods and Goddesses were build in all the caves or domes that exists in the country and were later destroyed by the Mughal rulers and the Britishers;
- (b) if so, whether the Government proposes to taken positive steps to preserve the Hindu religious cultural heritage under ASI which is in a dilapidated condition and restore it to its pristine form;
- (c) whether the Government has also received proposals from public representatives in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the action taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

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

- (a) Evidence/remains of Hindu temples and caves have been found from early historical times. Government of India maintains ancient monuments and archaeological sites and remains of national importance including temples, caves and domes.
- (b) Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) undertakes conservation, preservation and maintenance of ancient monuments and archaeological sites and remains of national importance as per need, priority and resources while following norms and policy of conservation. It is a continuous phenomenon.
- (c)to(e) ASI receives representations from various quarters regarding maintenance and upkeep of certain monuments from time to time. Such representations are examined and works are taken up as per the need, priority and availability of resources.