

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4404  
ANSWERED ON 20/08/2025**

**PLANETARIUM AT KAVARATTI ISLAND**

**4404. SHRI MUHAMMED HAMDULLAH SAYEED:**

**Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government has any proposal to upgrade the existing planetarium at Kavaratti Island under department of science and technology promotion schemes;**
- (b) if so, the details of the proposal, including the scope of upgradation, estimated cost, and implementing agency;**
- (c) whether the planetarium is currently functional and serving its intended purpose of promoting scientific temper and awareness among students and the general public in Lakshadweep;**
- (d) whether any assessment has been carried out regarding the need for modernization of the planetarium infrastructure and content;**
- (e) if so, the outcome of such assessment and the timeline for upgradation; and**
- (f) if not, whether the Government proposes to take necessary steps to strengthen science and technology infrastructure in Lakshadweep, especially through educational and outreach facilities like planetariums?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE  
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND EARTH SCIENCES  
(DR. JITENDRA SINGH)**

विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी तथा पृथ्वी विज्ञान मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (स्वतंत्र प्रभार)  
(डॉ. जितेंद्र सिंह)

**(a) to (e): Yes, Sir. The Science and Technology Department of the Lakshadweep Administration has a proposal to phase by phase upgradation of the existing planetarium at Kavaratti Island. An**

**assessment was carried out regarding the need for modernization of the planetarium infrastructure and content. The service report in this regard suggests upgradation of the existing planetarium projection system, computers, and software. The estimated cost of the first phase of upgradation of existing computers and hardware is approximately Rs. 2,12,01,442/- (Rupees two crore twelve lakh one thousand four hundred and forty-two). The timelines and implementing agency is to be decided by the Science and Technology Department of the Lakshadweep Administration.**

**(f) In order to strengthen Science and Technology in Lakshadweep, the Department of Science and Technology, Ministry of Science and Technology, Government of India, is conducting outreach programs, viz. National Children's Science Congress and Innovation in Science Pursuit for Inspired Research (INSPIRE) - Million Minds Augmenting National Aspirations and Knowledge (MANAK) in different schools of Lakshadweep. These programs encourage young students in the age group of 10-17 to explore and solve local problems through Science and Technology.**

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