

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CULTURE

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 2601
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09/03/2026

“MODERNIZATION OF MUSEUMS”

2601. SMT. POONAMBEN HEMATBHAI MAADAM:
DR. ALOK KUMAR SUMAN:

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has undertaken comprehensive measures initiatives for the modernization of national and regional museums to enhance the visitor experience in the country particularly in Bihar;
- (b) if so, the details of the steps taken for the upgradation of exhibition design, accessibility features along with the visitor amenities and extent to which exhibitions and digital collections have expanded in museums;
- (c) whether the Government has taken steps to enhance training and capacity building of museum curators, conservators and technical staff, if so, details thereof;
- (d) the details of the steps taken to promote tourism and education programmes in museums; and
- (e) the details of the technical measures taken/being taken to improve the security and infrastructure of museums?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF CULTURE AND TOURISM
(SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

- (a) and (b): Ministry of Culture operates Museum Grant Scheme under which financial assistance is provided for setting up of New Museums/development of the existing museums managed by Central/State Governments, Societies, Autonomous bodies, Public sector Undertaking, local bodies, Academic Institutions and Trusts registered under the societies Act at the Regional, State and District Level in the country including Bihar.

The development/modernization of museums include upgradation of exhibition design through renovation of galleries, improved display cases, updated exhibition layouts, enhanced interpretative panels, and improved lighting and sound systems to ensure better presentation of artefacts. Various museums have been equipped with Virtual Reality (VR) facilities to enrich

and uplift the visitor experience. Digital initiatives such as multimedia installations and progressive digital documentation and cataloguing of collections.

Further, accessibility features such as installation of ramps and barrier-free access provisions are also available to facilitate ease of access for differently-abled visitors. Visitor amenities including seating arrangements, signage, drinking water facilities and other basic infrastructure are also taken care of by the museums.

- (c) Under the Museum Grant Scheme there is component called as Capacity Building and Training of Museum Professionals for which financial assistance is provided under the scheme. The Ministry attracts due importance to professional development of museum personnel. It was felt to up-grade the human resources in Indian museums in order to broaden their vision, upgrade their skills and leadership management qualities to international standards. In-service skill development and training opportunities for museum professionals are very limited. Hence, it was also felt need for capacity building in-service programmes which will help bring about key changes in our museums to make them more enjoyable, educative and popular for visitors; accessible for all sections of our society and manage and preserve our priceless art collections with up-to date systems and best practices. This component of the scheme aims to create expertise and specializations in various fields of museum work such as collection management, design, education, marketing which are found lacking in most Indian museums.
- (d) To enhance public engagement and create awareness about cultural heritage, various outreach and educational programmes are organized in museums comes under the administrative control of Ministry of Culture on the occasion of International Museum Day, World Heritage Week, and other important festivals of national importance such as Independence Day and Republic Day. These programmes include exhibitions, lectures, quiz competitions, heritage walks, educational workshops, and interactive sessions aimed at students and the general public. Students from local schools and educational institutions are invited and they actively participate in these activities, which provide them with an opportunity to learn about the historical, cultural, and national significance of museums and the artefacts displayed therein.
- (e) Museums under the administrative control of Ministry of Culture have adequate security arrangements through deployment of armed guards and other security personnel to ensure protection of artefacts and premises, coupled with the use of necessary security gazette. Technical measures include installation and maintenance of fire alarm systems, fire detection systems, and provision of fire extinguishers at strategic locations within museum premises. Periodic inspection and maintenance of these systems are carried out to ensure their operational readiness. Mock drills are also conducted in coordination with local Disaster Management authorities to enhance preparedness and response capability in case of emergencies. These measures are implemented on a continuous basis to safeguard valuable cultural heritage assets housed in museums.
