

WELFARE EXTENSION PROJECT (MYSORE)

*249. **Shri Keshavalingar:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Welfare Extension Projects which have been actually started in the Mysore State;

(b) the names of the places where they have been started; and

(c) the progress of work in these projects?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Education (Dr. M. M. Das): (a) to (c). No projects have so far been started in the State of Mysore.

I may add that preliminary work is at present in hand for starting one project at Avanahalli, Mysore. The project will start as soon as this preliminary work is completed.

Shri Keshavalingar: May I know whether, when the project Implementation Committee was appointed to act in the absence of the State Welfare Board, and when the new project that you are now referring to is to be started at Avanahalli, now that the State Welfare Board has come into being, differences have arisen between the two bodies and consequently the functioning of this project has come to a standstill.

Dr. M. M. Das: We have no information to that effect.

SUN TEMPLE AT KONARAKA

*250. **Shri C. R. Narasimhan:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Sun Temple at Konaraka is fast deteriorating and there is a danger of valuable sculptural work being lost; and

(b) what remedial measures have been taken in the matter?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Education (Dr. M. M. Das): (a) Yes, Sir; but all possible remedial measures are being taken to arrest further deterioration.

(b) A committee of experts, which met in February, 1953, suggested certain remedial measures, which include:—

(i) structural repairs such as grouting, pointing etc. to render the fabric of the temple watertight, and

(ii) Drainage and repairs to the compound wall and some sand clearance. The work of sand clearance and the construction of a compound wall is in progress. The work of filling up the deep and wide joints and other depressions will be taken up shortly.

Shri C. R. Narasimhan: May I know whether the temporary remedial measures adopted, such as filling the hole with sea-sand, have actually accelerated the process of disintegration instead of arresting it?

Dr. M. M. Das: So far as we are concerned, we are clearing the sand. We are not filling up with sand.

Shri C. R. Narasimhan: May I know whether that had happened at any time before?

Dr. M. M. Das: I think that was done many years back.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether any shelter has been constructed there to arrest further deterioration of the statues which are falling here and there?

Dr. M. M. Das: We are trying our best to maintain the statues as they are. Some of the statues have fallen and come out. They have been put in a museum situated locally.

Shri C. R. Narasimhan: Have Government any proposal to copy the methods of reconstruction which the