

Black Spots on Khajuraho Temples

1542. SHRI JAGANNATH PATTNAIK : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that some of the sculptures on the South and North sides of the Lakshmana and Khanderia (Khajuraho) temples have turned black due to the action of excessive rains on the sandstone ;

(b) if so, the details in this regard ; and

(c) the reaction of Government to preserve them with care ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI) : (a) Superficial black spots have been noticed on the northern and southern sides of Khanderia and Lakshmana temples of Khajuraho due to stagnation and absorption of rain water.

(b) These spots occur mostly in the crevices and recesses behind the sculptures.

(c) As the black spots are superficial, they are removed by chemical cleaning and thereafter preserved with reversible surface coat.

Air Service from Hyderabad to Nagarjuna Sagar

1543. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal to introduce Air Service from Hyderabad to Nagarjunasagar in Andhra Pradesh which is a place of attraction to tourists and technicians in general and Buddhists in particular ;

(b) if so, the likely date by which the Air Service will come into operation ; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) No, Sir. There is no proposal at present.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

State Universities not Following U.G.C. Guidelines

1544. PROF. K.V. THOMAS : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it has been brought to the notice of Government that many of the universities started by the State Governments do not follow the guidelines of the University Grants Commission and so the standard of education is coming down ; and

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal that prior to the establishment of the universities, State Governments should get the approval of the University Grants Commission and that the University Grants Commission should be satisfied with the arrangement and regulation of the Universities ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a) According to Section 12-B of the U.G.C. Act, any new university established after June 17, 1972 is eligible for financial assistance from the Commission only after it is declared fit to receive such assistance from the U.G.C. Only those universities which fulfil the conditions prescribed in the rules framed under Section 12-B of the U.G.C. Act are declared fit by the Commission for assistance. 13 universities which have been established in the recent past and which do not yet fulfil these conditions to be declared fit for assistance by the U.G.C.

(b) There is no proposal presently under consideration under which State Govts. should seek the prior approval