

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM AND CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6054
ANSWERED ON:05.05.2003
UPKEEP OF MUSEUMS
PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Museums of National Importance functioning under Union Government/State Governments/or any autonomous body recognised by State Governments;
- (b) whether several Museums of National Importance like the Victoria Memorial and Rabindra Bharati Museums in Kolkata have been left at the mercy of State finances; and
- (c) if so, whether the Government propose to take over such Museums of National Importance like Gandhi Darshan and other Ex-Prime Minister`s museums housed at New Delhi functioning under the Union Government?

Answer

MINISTER OF TOURISM & CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN)

- (a) : The Department of Culture, Government of India administers museums/galleries of national importance such as the 1) National Museum, New Delhi; 2) Salar Jung Museum, Hyderabad; 3) Indian Museum, Kolkata; and 4) Allahabad Museum, Allahabad; 5) National Gallery of Modern Art, New Delhi with branches at Mumbai and Bangalore; 6) Victoria Memorial Hall, Kolkata; and 7) National Council of Science Museums, Kolkata with its 27 Science Centres/Museums;
- (b) : Victoria Memorial is under the administrative control of the Government of India and is fully funded by it. The Rabindra Bharati Museum is under the administrative control of the Rabindra Bharati University, which is a State University of West Bengal. Museums of national importance are already fully funded by the Government.
- (c) : Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti and Nehru Memorial Museum and Library are under the administrative control of Government of India and fully funded by it. There is no proposal to take over other Ex-Prime Ministers` museums at New Delhi.