GOVERNMENT OF INDIA CULTURE LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3179 ANSWERED ON:14.12.2005 RENOVATION OF PROTECTED MONUMENTS Saradgi Shri Iqbal Ahmed

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware of poor upkeep and encroachment in and around the Belur and Halebid protected monuments in Karnataka:
- (b) if so, whether the Government has prepared any plan to renovate these monuments;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken to remove the encroachment from these monuments?

Answer

MINISTER FOR URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND CULTURE (SHRIS. JAIPAL REDDY)

(a)to(d) No, Sir. The centrally protected monuments at Belur and Halebidu in Karnaktaka are maintained in a very presentable condition and there is no encroachment in the protected area. The maintenance and conservation of these monuments are attended to on a regular basis and both these monuments have been provided with toilets, drinking water facilities and international standard signages. The Ministry of Tourism, Government of India has deposited Rs.61.04 Lakhs with CPWD for illumination of Halebid temple. The work is in progress. The Archaeological Survey of India is also maintaining a beautiful garden all around the temple.

At Belur, the temple is surrounded by a village and ASI needs the land around the temple for landscaping and to shift the parking slot away from the monument. The District Authorities, particularly Endowment Department, have been requested to vacate one of the mandapas, which is being used as a site office since long period.