

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2120
ANSWERED ON:06.12.2006
CENTRE FOR ASIAN CULTURAL AND INTELLECTUAL ACTIVITIES
Bhakta Shri Manoranjan

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to open a new centre for South East Asian Cultural and Intellectual Activities in Maharashtra;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the time by which it is likely to be opened?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE)

a) The Government proposes to open a South Asian Centre for Art & Culture (SACAC) in Mumbai (Maharashtra).

b&c) The proposed site for the Centre is Jinnah House in Mumbai. Jinnah House is currently undergoing restoration and renovation which is expected to be completed by December, 2007. The restoration work is being handled by the Indian National Trust for Art & Cultural Heritage (INTACH). The SACAC is expected to be operational in 2008 under the auspices of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations.