

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1835

ANSWERED ON:12.03.2008

PROPOSAL FOR NATURAL SCIENCE MUSEUMS

Patel Shri Kishanbhai Vestabhai; Sai Shri Nand Kumar; Singh Shri Sugrib

**Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government proposes to set up Rajiv Gandhi Regional Natural Science Museum in the country;
- (b) If so, the details thereof along with the proposed locations;
- (c) The estimated expenditure likely to be incurred on each of such regional museums;
- (d) The benefits likely to accrue for the protection of ecology, environment and wild animals in the country with the setting up of such museums; and
- (e) The time by which such museums are likely to be set up?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

- (a), (b) & (e) The Government has approved to set up the Rajiv Gandhi Regional Museum of Natural History at Sawai Madhopur, Rajasthan. The foundation stone of the Museum was laid by Hon'ble Vice President of India on 23rd December, 2007 and is expected to be opened to the public by 2011.
- (c) The estimated expenditure on the Rajiv Gandhi Regional Museum of Natural History at Sawai Madhopur will be around Rs.40 Crores.
- (d) The Rajiv Gandhi Regional Museum of Natural History at Sawai Madhopur will serve as a non-formal center for Environment Education and creation of public awareness on conservation of nature and natural resources through potential medium of exhibits and educational activities. It would also provide an understanding of the diversity of life on the earth, the factors responsible for their well being, man's dependence upon nature and the necessity to maintain our ecological heritage and to ensure sustainable development with special emphasis on the Western Arid region of India.