

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:342
ANSWERED ON:02.08.2011
RELOCATION OF TEMPLES
Thakur Shri Anurag Singh

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether any ancient temple of Bilaspur town in Himachal Pradesh has been submerged in the Govind Sagar lake due to the construction of Bhakra Dam in early 1960s;
- (b) If so, the details thereof;
- (c) Whether the Government has any proposal to relocate these temples and restore them to their ancient glory;
- (d) If so, the details thereof alongwith the time by which the work is likely to be started;
- (e) Whether the Government has any proposal to repair the 12th century Mrikula Devi Temple at Udaipur town in Himachal Pradesh which is in a dilapidated condition; and
- (f) If so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (KUMARI SELJA)

- (a) & (b) Yes, Sir. There are 28 temples that have been submerged in Govind Sagar Lake in Sutlej river in Bilaspur (Himachal Pradesh) due to construction of Bhakra Dam in early 1960s.
- (c) & (d) Archaeological Survey of India has helped the State Government in identifying the alternate location for transplantation of the submerging temples.
- (e) & (f) Archaeological Survey of India has already initiated the conservation works. Forest Research Institute (FRI), Dehradun has been entrusted to undertake analytical studies of the wooden temple.