

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7405
ANSWERED ON:22.05.2012
THREAT TO CULTURAL HERITAGE
Sugumar Shri K.

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that a conservation laboratory housing inflammatory chemicals and a cafeteria are located in close affinity in the vicinity of the National Museum in Delhi;
- (b) if so, whether the Government/Museum authorities have been apprised of the risk this poses to the valuable heritages and art treasures exhibited at the said Museum;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government/Museum authorities propose to take any preventive steps in this regard; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the time by which it is likely to do so?

Answer

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

(a), (b), (c), (d) and (e) A cafeteria was functioning on the second floor of the National Museum as a visitor amenity.

Subsequently, having regard to the likely risk this poses to the conservation laboratory and the valuable heritage and art treasures exhibited at the Museum, it has been decided to shift the Cafeteria from its location on the second floor outside the Museum main building. As such, there is no Cafeteria located within the main building of the National Museum.