

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2692

ANSWERED ON:28.08.2012

SCIENCE CENTRES

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Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Science Centres and planetariums in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether the Union Government has received any proposals from the State Governments for setting up of more such Science Centres and planetariums;

(c) if so, the details thereof during the last three years and the current year along with the details of the action taken in this regard, proposal-wise;

(d) the details of the programmes launched by the said Science Centres and planetariums to develop scientific outlook and interest among the people during the last one year; and

(e) the step taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for setting up of such Science Centres and planetariums in each State/Union Territory of the country?

Answer

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

(a): 24 Science Centres have been developed and are run by National Council of Science Museums (NCSM), an autonomous organization under the Ministry of Culture. In addition, 11 Science Centres, developed by NCSM, are run by State/UT authorities. Some of these Science Centres have planetariums. Details are at Annexure-I.

(b) & (c): Setting up of Science Centres is an ongoing activity, based on proposals received from State Governments from time to time, in accordance with approved norms/guidelines, subject to availability of resources. Year-wise details of proposals received during last three years and current year and their status is placed at Annexure-II.

(d): The programmes organized by NCSM during the last one year to develop scientific attitude and temper amongst the people include exhibitions, seminars, popular lectures, science camps and other science educational programmes through Indoor Science Galleries, and Outdoor Science Parks and traveling exhibitions including Mobile Science Exhibition Programmes.

(e): It is a constant endeavor of Central Government to set up Science Cities in different States of the country. However, the State Governments have to initiate proposals for setting up Science Centres including planetariums, and based on the merits of each case, pro rata financial assistance is considered by the Centre.