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Title: Need to preserve and maintain the Konark Temple in Odisha.

DR. KULMANI SAMAL (JAGATSINGHPUR): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I thank you very much for allowing me to raise an important issue relating to my constituency Jagatsinghpur, Odisha.

Konark Sun Temple built in the 13th Century AD is conceived as one of the most sublime monuments and prime tourist attractions of India is situated in Odisha. It has also been inscribed as a World Heritage Site by the UNESCO. But unfortunately, the gigantic structure of the temple is now in a dilapidated condition due to its exposure to saline ingress, heavy rains, growth of vegetation on the temple etc. Despite this, no comprehensive action for its repair or maintenance is being taken up.

Hence, I would like to draw the kind attention of the Minister of Culture as well as the Minister of Tourism and urge them to take necessary steps as early as possible to preserve the structural resources of Konark Sun Temple.