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Title: Need to expedite the repair work undertaken in the assembly hall of the sanctum sanctorum of Jagannath Temple, Puri.

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB (CUTTACK): Mr. Chairman, Sir, there are apprehensions about the structural damage to the *Jagmohan*, which is the Assembly Hall of the 12<sup>th</sup> Century Sanctum Sanctorum of the iconic Jagannath Temple in Puri. The Archaeological Survey of India has recently conducted a survey of the Jagmohan and found some repairable structural damages in it. ASI says that cracks in stones and joints of the structure needs immediate repair. Plaster has loosened, there is rainwater leakage and walls are damp. Some corbel stones have fallen off and iron beams have rusted at embedding points. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi visited the temple recently. ASI must have explained to him the enormity of the work. Repair works should be done in a time bound manner. ASI has been working for seven hours daily. This has affected the flow of devotees entering into the *Sanctum Sanctorum* since 27<sup>th</sup> January, 2016.

As the ASI has taken up the work, I appeal to the Government to finish it in a time bound manner so that the *Sanctum Sanctorum* is repaired and the Assembly Hall where a large number of people congregate to have darshan of Lord Jagannath is restored fully.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Shri Bhairon Prasad Mishra is permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri Bhartruhari Mahtab.