

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CULTURE  
LOK SABHA  
STARRED QUESTION NO. 190  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 24.12.2018

PRESERVATION OF BRIHADISWARA TEMPLE

\*190. SHRI K. PARSURAMAN:

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) is having any proposal to clean the other towers at the entrance of Brihadiswara Temple (Big Temple) at Thanjavur and if so, the details thereof ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that ASI has undertaken strengthening of floors to maintain sturdiness of the sub-surface structure of the temple;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether it will affect the thousand years old temple's foundation and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR CULTURE AND MINISTER  
OF STATE FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE.

(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)

(a) to (d) A statement is laid on the table of the House

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) TO (d) OF THE LOK SABHA  
STARRED QUESTION NO. \*190 FOR 24.12.2018.

- (a) Yes Madam. There are three towers at the entrance of Brihadiswara Temple, known as Big Temple, Thanjavur. These towers are Maratha gate, Keralanthagan Gopuram and Rajarajan Gopuram. All these three entrance towers are scientifically cleaned and preserved recently and they are in a good state of preservation. For other locations in the temple complex necessary scientific cleaning and preservation work is attended as per requirements.
- (b) Yes Madam. Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has strengthened the & damaged and worn out brick flooring on the southern, western and northern
- (c) side of the temple by removal of decayed bricks and replacing the same with new bricks, laid over the base concrete.
- (d) No Madam. The conservation work of flooring of the temple will not affect its foundation.