

Need for adequate funds for beautification and maintenance of Barabati Fort of Cuttack in Odisha-Laid

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB (CUTTACK): Barabati Fort of Cuttack, the citadel of Utkal for hundreds of years is lying neglected. It was constructed 1000 years back in the Eleventh Century and has been witnessed to many upheavals in history. Abul Fazal has in Ain-i-Akbari stated Gajapati King Mukunda Deva reconstructed Barabati Fort which was nine-storied palace. Though it is a protected monument and ASI is in possession yet not much steps are being taken to restore it and develop it into a tourist spot. The gorge that surrounds the Fort is in utter neglect. The Interpretation Centre, newly constructed in the Fort area has not been opened. I urge upon the Government to grant adequate funds for beautification, maintenance of the Fort area and to desilt the gorge along with construction of the stone- walling of the gorge that encircles the Fort at the earliest to protect it from further decay.