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Title: Need to take necessary steps for the establishment of Sub-regional Science Centres at Keonjhar, Jeypore and Khandapada in Odisha.

DR. KULMANI SAMAL (JAGATSINGHPUR): The Government of Odisha have submitted a proposal to the National Council of Science Museums, Kolkata as well as Ministry of Culture for establishment of Sub-regional Science Centre (SRSC) at Keonjhar, Jeypore, and Khandapada in Odisha in order to popularise developments in science and technology as well as to inculcate the scientific temper in society, especially among the rural students. Since these centres are based on learning through models and exhibitions, they could enable students, teachers and general public to develop interest in scientific enquiry, creativity and logical curiosity easily. So to foster scientific temper, the proposal for establishment of Sub-regional Science Centre at Keonjhar and Jeypore was submitted in 2010 and proposal for establishment of the SRSC at Khandapada has been made in 2015. However, the decision in respect of all the proposals has been pending with Ministry of Culture.

In this regard, I urge upon the Minister of Culture to take necessary steps to finalise the said proposals to facilitate establishment of Sub-regional Science Centres at Keonjhar, Jeypore and Khandapada in Odisha at the earliest.