

जयराम रमेश
JAIRAM RAMESH



राज्य मंत्री (स्वतंत्र प्रभार)
पर्यावरण एवं वन
भारत सरकार
नई दिल्ली-110003
MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
NEW DELHI - 110 003
5th October 2010

D. No. 4-16/2008 WL-I/1081

Dear *Ashokji-*

I would like to congratulate you on the recent inscription of Jantar Mantar Observatory of Jaipur on the UNESCO's World Cultural Heritage list during the 34th Session of the World Heritage Committee held in Brasilia, Brazil during July this year. The World Heritage Sites are undoubtedly the 'best of the best sites' and as a State Party & Signatory to the UNESCO World Heritage Convention, it is our responsibility to ensure that the 'Outstanding Universal Values' of the sites are maintained in perpetuity.

In this context, I would like to draw your attention to my earlier letter of even no. dated 12th March 2010 (copy enclosed) impressing upon the need to augment water supply to the Keoladeo National Park, which is one of our prestigious World Heritage Site. As you are kindly aware, availability of water (source, quantum and timing) has remained a serious issue for effective management of Keoladeo National Park and water shortage has been adversely affecting the wetland characteristics of the Park. While a number of solutions have been considered to address the water management issues and funds have also been provided by the Planning Commission to the Government of Rajasthan for the Govardhan drain project, the situation on ground continues to remain grim. The Park still depends on the vagaries of monsoon and uncertainties associated with the release of water to the Ajan Bund.

The World Heritage Committee has expressed its serious concerns in this matter on several occasions and in case the prevailing situation persists, there is a possibility that Keoladeo National Park may be listed as "World Heritage Site in Danger", which could be embarrassing to India. In view of this, I would request for your personal intervention in the matter to provide a durable and pragmatic solution to the water management issues.

Jairam Ramesh
With regards,
J

Yours sincerely,
Jairam Ramesh
(Jairam Ramesh)

Shri Ashok Gehlot
Chief Minister
Government of Rajasthan