

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM AND CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3003
ANSWERED ON:07.12.2000
MAINTENANCE OF TAJ MAHAL
RAMDAS ATHAWALE

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned `Registani Hawon Se Agra Mein Pradushan, Taj ko Bhe Khatra` appeared in the `Navbharat Times` dated September 28, 2000;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps being taken by the Government to maintain the present look and beauty of the Taj from the pollution ?

Answer

MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR)

- (a) & (b) Yes, Sir. The news item refers to the threat of pollution to Taj Mahal from sand particles, sulphur di oxide and suspended particulate matter.
- (c) The Taj Mahal, Agra is in a good state of preservation. The Archaeological Survey of India is monitoring the level of pollutants in the ambience of the Taj Mahal and increasing the green cover within the complex.