

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:275
ANSWERED ON:22.02.2001
DAMAGE TO FATHEPUR SIKRI PALACE
VILAS BABURAO MUTTEMWAR

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 `ASIdamaged palace at Fatehpur Sikri ` appearing in the Times of India dated January 4, 2001;
- (b) if so, the facts in this regard ; (
- (c) whether the purpose for which the excavation undertaken is achieved ;
- (d) if so, the details thereof ;
- (e) whether any damage was done to the monument during the excavation ;
- (f) if so, the factual position in this regard ; and
- (g) the action taken / proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b), (c) & (d) The scientific clearance conducted below the bed of the Anup Talao in the Fatehpur Sikri complex, established by the Mughal emperor Akbar, has exposed an underground `cool chamber` at the centre of the Talao. This excavation corroborates contemporary historical sources like Akbarnama of Abul Fazal and accounts of Badauni which have mentioned the existence of such a tank.

(e) No, Sir .

(f) Does not arise.

(g) Does not arise.