

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6106
ANSWERED ON:05.05.2005
VISITORS TO TAJ MAHAL
Ahmad Shri Ateeq;Bishnoi Shri Kuldeep

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has conducted any study to ascertain tourist carrying capacity of Taj Mahal every day in order to avoid extra pressure on the monument;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefore; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to develop specific visitors path in Taj Mahal to avoid congestion and also encourage tourists to see other structures in side Taj premises like Museum and other buildings on either sides of the mausoleum?

Answer

MINISTER FOR INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND CULTURE(SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY)

(a)to(d) No specific study to ascertain the carrying capacity of Taj Mahal has been conducted by the Archaeological Survey of India. However, the data collected through the sale of tickets at Taj Mahal indicates that nearly 6000 visitors, on an average, visit Taj Mahal on a daily basis excluding the visitors below 15 years of age who are exempted from paying entry fee as per rule 6 of Ancient Monuments, Archaeological Sites and Remains Rules, 1959

As most of the visitors follow the main pathway leading to the mausoleum, a plan has been drawn to regulate the movement of visitors to use the pathways on the western and eastern sides to enable them to see other interesting parts of the Taj Mahal including the site museum and this arrangement would also ensure decongestion of the main pathway.