

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1381
ANSWERED ON:08.03.2007
NATIONAL MISSION ON MONUMENTS
Verma Shri Ravi Prakash

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether thousand of monuments are outside the ambit of Archaeological Survey of India and State Governments;
- (b) if so, whether there was proposal to set up Mission on Monuments;
- (c) the reasons for not setting up Mission on Monuments;
- (d) whether the Government has planned an ambitious programme to map every monument in the country, down to the village level;
- (e) if so, the details of the plan prepared therefor; and
- (f) the steps taken by the Government for the conservation of unprotected monuments?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI AJAY MAKEN)

(a) & (b) Yes, Sir. Government has approved the National Mission on Monument and Antiquities.

(c) Question does not arise.

(d) & (e) Yes, Sir. The National Mission on Monuments and Antiquities proposes to prepare a National Data Base on Built Heritage and Antiquities.

The main mandate proposed for the Mission are :-

(i) Preparation of national data base on monuments and antiquities.

(ii) Setting up of regional data base centers in States /U.Ts.

(iii) Increasing public awareness on archaeological heritage and antiquarian wealth and sensitizing people about their preservation and management.

(iv) Capacity building in State Archaeology Departments & NGO's in respect of heritage protection & preservation.

(v) Publication of popular literature for public and educational institutions in respect of preservation and management of monuments and antiquities.

(vi) Conservation of selected unprotected monuments.

(f) Presently under the financial assistance scheme, Archaeological Survey of India has a provision to grant funds for the conservation of unprotected important buildings which are less than 100 years old.