

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1434
ANSWERED ON:09.12.2004
MAINTENANCE OF CHAR MINAR
Reddy Shri Mekapati Rajamohan

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether ASI (Archaeological Survey of India) is maintaining and upkeeping the well known monument Char Minar in Hyderabad;
- (b) whether the Government is aware of any encroachment below the monument by beggars & others;
- (c) whether Char Minar is also losing its shine and whiteness because of poor maintenance & pollution;
- (d) if so, the effective steps the Government has taken in this regard;
- (e) whether any specific plan has been chalked out to give a face lift to this monument; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT FORESTS (SHRI A RAJA)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The attention of the Govt. has not been drawn to encroachments by beggars & others.

(c) There is no lack of maintenance and the monument is not losing its shine and whiteness. However, due to vehicular traffic, the monument is exposed to effects of noise and air pollution.

(d) Scientific studies have indicated that the suspended particle matters as well as the traffic noise index and sound pressure values are on higher side. The barricading around the Charminar has been moved further by 13 feet and along the retaining wall, one metre wide trench has been cut and filled up with earth, turfed with grass and flower plants to minimize the effect of vibrations due to vehicular traffic.

Periodical chemical treatment is undertaken to remove black soot.

(e) & (f) ASI is periodically undertaking conservation and preservation measures of this monument. Fallen balconies of southwest minars and steps etc. are conserved. Missing portion of stucco has been repaired. Illumination is carried out from outside.

State Government has prepared plans to divert the vehicular traffic and make it a pedestrian zone.