

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3024

ANSWERED ON:20.03.2008

CENTRALLY PROTECTED HISTORICAL MONUMENTS

Gaikwad Shri Eknath Mahadeo;Mane Smt. Nivedita;Yadav Shri Anirudh Prasad (Sadhu);Yaskhi Shri Madhu Goud

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether more than 35 Centrally protected historical monuments/ sites under the charge of Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) across the country have simply disappeared without leaving any trace as appeared in the Hindustan Times dated March 5, 2008;
- (b) if so, the details of such monuments/sites, State-wise;
- (c) the present position of these monuments & sites;
- (d) whether the Government has ordered any inquiry in this regard;
- (e) if so, the outcome thereof and the persons responsible for the same; and
- (f) the corrective steps taken by the Government to stop such activities in future?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI)

(a)to(e) Out of 3667 centrally protected monuments/sites, thirty-five are not traceable. The details (State-wise) are at Annexure. The main causes for the disappearance of these monuments are urbanization, commercialization and implementation of development projects. The disappearance came to light in the course of surveys of monuments and it is not feasible to fix individual responsibility.

(f) A complete and detailed data base of centrally protected monuments is under preparation. The Archaeological Survey of India has also strengthened the watch and ward by deploying private security guards, State police personnel, home guards, and CISF personnel at selected monuments.