

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5262
ANSWERED ON:28.04.2010
PROTECTED MONUMENTS/ HERITAGE SITES
Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the remnants and monuments of Gaund King Era like Forts Temples and Buddhist Era Caves and Remnants located in former Vidharba region within the jurisdiction of Archaeological Survey of India(ASI) located in Aurangabad, Maharashtra are not being included in the list of 3675 ancient monuments and remnants declared as protected National monuments;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefore;
- (c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to protect the these ancient monuments and remnants of Gaund Era and Buddhist Era in Maharashtra;
- (d) whether demand for setting up of separate Nagpur Circle for Vidharba region of Archaeological Survey of India has been received by the Government;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the time by which the said ASI Circle is likely to be set up for the protection and maintenance of ancient heritage sites and monuments of Vidharba region?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR PLANNING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY)

- (a)&(b) No, Sir. Ninety three monuments/sites including the monuments of Gaund King Era and Buddhist caves and remains, located in Vidharba Region of Maharashtra, are declared as of national importance. The details of such monuments/sites are available in the Archaeological Survey of India's website, www.asi.nic.in
- (c) The monuments/sites in Vidharba Region are conserved, preserved and maintained by way of structural repairs, on need basis, from time to time, as per archaeological norms and subject to availability of resources.
- (d)&(e) A proposal has been received for the formation of Nagpur Circle of Archaeological Survey of India for the Vidarbha region.
- (f) At present no proposal for formation of Nagpur Circle is under consideration of the Archaeological Survey of India.