GOVERNMENT OF INDIA CULTURE LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5380 ANSWERED ON:28.04.2010 PROTECTED MONUMENTS IN JUNAGARH Muttemwar Shri Vilas Baburao;Yadav Shri Ranjan Prasad

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the names of protected monuments in Junagarh (Gujarat) and the amount spent on each of them during the last three years;
- (b) whether any religious organization or any other body has sought permission to undertake repairs and maintenance work of the aforesaid monuments;
- (c) if so, whether permission has been granted in this regard;
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (e) the role and responsibility of the State Government in respect of these monuments;
- (f) whether there are complaints over the indifferent and partisan attitude of the administration resulting in practical denial of the right of unobstructed worship and prayer by a section of devotees;
- (g) if so, whether the Central Government has advised the State Government to ensure unhindered exercise of fundamental right of freedom to worship and offer prayer in accordance with the traditions of those devotees; and
- (h) if not the reasons therefor?

Answer

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

- (a) The details of the protected monuments in Junagadh(Gujarat) under the control of Archaeological Survey of India and the expenditure incurred on their maintenance during the last three years is at Annexure.
- (b)to(d) No, Sir. However, Baitulmal Fund, Mangrol, District Junagadh(Gujarat) have requested for undertaking repair, etc., of Jami Masjid at Manglore, Junagadh and the Archaeological Survey of India has accordingly taken up the special repairs of the Masjid on need basis as per archaeological norms.
- (e) Though no direct role is played by the State Government on conservation, preservation and maintenance of the centrally protected monuments, the State Government is expected to provide infrastructure support, maintenance of law and order situation and implementation of various provisions of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958.
- (f)to(h) No such complaint about the indifferent and partisan attitude of the administration has been reported so far.

In so far as revival of worship at the monuments, where the practice was in vogue at the time of protection, the provisions of Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958 allows continuance of worship or prayer without any hindrance. But in respect of those monuments where worship or prayer was not in practice at the time of protection as of national importance, the provision of Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958 does not allow revival of worship or prayer.