

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:148
ANSWERED ON:04.08.2010
MAINTENANCE OF PROTECTED MONUMENTS
Satpathy Shri Tathagata;Sethi Shri Arjun Charan

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether complaints have been received about the maintenance of some monuments protected by the Archaeological Survey of India in recent past;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government is aware that due to heavy rains in the month of July, 2010, the premises of the 'Sun Temple, Konark' in the State of Odisha remained inaccessible to the tourists as knee deep water accumulated around the temple;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether certain portion of the temple has fallen down due to seepage; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the corrective steps taken / proposed to be taken by the Government for proper maintenance of the Sun Temple and other protected monuments?

Answer

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

(a) to (f): A Statement is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) TO (f) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.148 FOR 04-08-2010

(a): Some complaints regarding maintenance and other issues related to monuments are received which in most cases are found not true and

(b): action on them taken accordingly, wherever required.

(c): No such incident has taken place in the month of July, 2010. However, in the last week of June, 2010, due to heavy rains, the storm water was

(d): accumulated for a short period which was immediately pumped out making the temple complex accessible to the visitors.

(e) & (f): No, Sir. No portion of the temple has fallen down due to seepage. However as a preventive conservation measure, in addition to existing soak pit on the western side of Sun Temple Konark, from where the rain water is pumped out, two more soak pits have been provided in the temple complex. Catch water drains have been dug on northern and western side. Low height earthen bunds have been created on northern and western side to prevent the flow of rain water towards the temple. Essential repair and maintenance work to the Konark Temple, as well as to other protected monuments, is attended regularly and they are in a good state of preservation.