

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:242  
ANSWERED ON:10.11.2010  
DAMAGES CAUSED TO CHARMINAR  
Reddy Shri Mekapati Rajamohan

**Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:**

- (a) Whether a portion of a minaret of Hyderabad's iconic Charminar fell off recently;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the damages caused thereof;
- (c) the plan to restore the damaged minaret and for the upkeep of the monument; and
- (d) the steps taken to beautify the Charminar and its premises to attract tourists/ visitors of the iconic monument?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. A portion of the stucco of around 3 feet length of the balcony of the south-eastern minar had fallen down recently during season rains on 29-08-2010. The fallen portion of stucco work, which is normally done subsequently on the earlier plaster and as such it got detached from the main structure. No structural damage has occurred to the monument.

(c): There is no damage to the minaret. Only stucco application work containing floral design has fallen. A comprehensive estimate is prepared for not only restoring the stucco work but also repairing other portions of the monument. The Civil Engineering Department of the JNTU, Hyderabad has been contacted for conducting investigation into the structural strength of the monument and also to devise ways and means to reduce the vibrations as well as pollution around the monument.

(d): The Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation has given about 15 feet of land all around Charminar for providing space around the monument for the tourists/visitors, since the road was just attached to the monument on all the four sides. The space provided was dug up to a depth of about two feet to reduce the vibration all around the monument caused by vehicular traffic. During excavation conducted around the monument, the original steps on the southern side, western side and northern side were also exposed to beautify the monuments and attract tourists/visitors.