

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4638
ANSWERED ON:08.12.2010
MAINTENANCE OF MONUMENTS AND HERITAGE SITES
Rathwa Shri Ramsinhbhai Patalbhai

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether huge funds are being spent by ASI on the maintenance and preservation of historical monuments and heritage sites;
- (b) if so, whether the Government has explored the possibility of hiring out the vacant land around the monuments for holding small functions/parties /festivals etc. against payment of certain percentage of gate money of fixed amount to meet the maintenance/preservation expenditure;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY)

(a) The monuments/sites declared as of national importance are conserved, preserved and maintained by Archaeological Survey of India besides providing tourist related amenities e.g. drinking water, toilet blocks, signage, pathways, etc. on need basis, subject to availability of resources. The allocation and expenditure incurred on conservation, preservation, maintenance by way of structural repairs, chemical treatment and environmental development of centrally protected monuments in the country, during the last three years and current year are as under:

(Rupees in lakhs)
Year Allocation Expenditure

2007-08	12704.00	12886.19
2008-09	13588.00	13498.60
2009-10	15352.50	15300.43
2010-11	13590.00	9188.30
(upto Oct. 2010)		

(b)to(d) No Sir, the Archaeological Survey of India permits usage of certain protected monuments for holding of high standard cultural events only, provided the organizers do not charge any gate money from the audience or viewers. The ASI, however, charges fee from the organizers of the cultural events. The revenue so earned is deposited in the Consolidated Fund of India and cannot be utilized for maintenance/preservation of the monuments/sites. It may not be appropriate to allow commercialization of the monuments and sites to ensure maintenance of the ambience and aesthetic, specially keeping in view the need to preserve and conserve the character of the monument.