

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2543
ANSWERED ON:11.03.2011
ACCESSIBLE AND SAFE TOURISM
Balram Shri P.

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to provide accessible and safe tourism at Archaeological Survey of India's sites particularly in Tirupati and other such areas of Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the funds sanctioned by the Union Government and expenditure incurred by the State Government for the purpose?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM(SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHA)

(a) & (b): As per the information received from Archaeological Survey of India (ASI), Ministry of Culture, Government of India, they are taking all possible steps for making temple complexes accessible and also safe for tourists. The Temple of Lord Shri Venkateswara Swamy, Tirumala is not a centrally protected monument under the jurisdiction of the ASI. The maintenance and repairs is under the control of the Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanam Board constituted by the Govt. of Andhra Pradesh.

There are 137 centrally protected monuments/Sites in Andhra Pradesh under the jurisdiction of the Archaeological Survey of India. Out of these 53 are temples and 36 temples are under worship.

Conservation, preservation, maintenance and environmental development besides providing tourist related amenities i.e. drinking water, pathways, signage, toilet block etc. are undertaken by the Archaeological Survey of India as per archaeological norms on need basis subject to feasibility and availability of resources.

(c): The expenditure incurred for conservation, preservation and maintenance of centrally protected monuments under ASI in Andhra Pradesh during the last three years and allocation for the current year is as under:

(Rs. in Lakhs)

2007-08 Rs.619.28

2008-09 Rs.850.76

2009-10 Rs.572.64

2010-11 Rs.535.00

(Allocation)

As per the information provided by the State Government of Andhra Pradesh, the tourism projects located in temple complexes covered under Ministry of Tourism's Central Financial Assistance scheme, State Government's own budget and 12th Finance Commission grants, a total amount of Rs.60.35 crore have been allotted and the expenditure incurred so far is Rs.20.15 crore for the said purpose.