

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3043
ANSWERED ON:15.03.2011
DEPLOYMENT OF ATTENDANTS AT HISTORICAL MONUMENTS
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Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of attendants deployed by the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) at historical/heritage monuments under its jurisdiction and the expenditure incurred on them during each of the last three years;
- (b) whether the number of attendants deployed at these monuments is considered to be sufficient for properly discharging the duties and responsibilities assigned to them;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to recruit more such attendants;and
- (e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the time by which they are likely to be put into service?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE (KUMARI SELJA)

(a) 3463 Monument Attendants (watch and ward staff) are presently deployed at the ancient monuments, archaeological sites and remains declared as of national importance. The ASI, in addition, has also deployed private security guards, armed police guards/Home Guards and CISF personnel at sensitive monuments to take care of the security requirements. The details are as under:

- (i) CISF: 387 personnel
- (ii) Armed Police Guards/Home Guards: 140
- (iii) Private Security Guards: 803

The details of expenditure incurred (in Rs.) on employment of Monument Attendants during the last three years are as under:

2007-2008 : 34,32,44,035

2008-2009 : 39,32,00,359

2009-2010 : 47,54,48,033

(b)&(c) No, Sir. Ideally, three Monument Attendants need to be deployed at each protected ancient monument/ archaeological site and remains, besides the leave reserve for bare watch and ward duty.

(d)&(e) The ASI has already initiated adequate steps to strengthen the watch and ward at the protected ancient monuments, archaeological sites and remains by way of engaging 1000 ex-servicemen. Besides, a decision to increase the number of private security guards by about 700 for deployment at the monuments, archaeological sites and remains for watch and ward duty has also been taken. The process to conduct security audit of the protected monuments to arrive at actual requirement of watch and ward staff and security gadgets has also started.