

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3119
ANSWERED ON:15.03.2011
BEAUTIFICATION OF PLACES OF WORSHIP
Sainuji Shri Kowase Marotrao

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken/proposes to take any steps for the beautification of places of worship in tribal dominated areas in the country including in Maharashtra;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of the steps taken to provide basic facilities to the devotees visiting the said places of worship?

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) to(c) Archeological Survey of India (ASI) is responsible for preservation and maintenance monuments/sites as of national importance declared under the provisions of Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958. So far as places of worship is concerned there is no such category specified under the Act. As on date there are 3,676 monuments/sites in the country including 285 in Maharashtra which includes temples, churches, mosques, stupas, etc. Apart from conservation, preservation, maintenance and development of environs of these monuments /sites, Archeological Survey of India provides basic amenities such as drinking water, toilet blocks, facilities for physically challenged, pathways, cultural notice boards/signage, vehicle parking, etc. as per the needs and availability of resources.