

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4504

ANSWERED ON:30.08.2011

CONSERVATION OF MONUMENTS

Choudhry Smt. Shruti;Gaddigoudar Shri P.C.;Singh Shri Bhupendra ;Tudu Shri Laxman;Viswanathan Shri P.

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

- (a) the details of the policy of the Government for conservation and preservation of monuments in the country;
- (b) whether the Government of Germany has given a grant to the Aga Khan Trust for Culture for conservation of a tomb in Delhi;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to develop various cultural, religious and historical monuments in Haryana and the Haripurgarh Fort in Odisha;
- (e) if so, the details thereof, alongwith the funds spent/proposed to be spent for the said purpose during each of the last three years and the current year, monument-wise;
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (g) whether the Government has received any report regarding damage caused to historical monuments and sites in the country due to excavation works at the monuments/sites, and also due to vandalism by anti-social elements;
- (h) if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years and the current year; and
- (i) the measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (KUMARI SELJA)

(a) As per the existing policy the monuments are declared protected under "The Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act 1958 (24 of 1958)" as amended by "The Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains (Amendment and Validation) Act, 2010 (10 of 2010)". The protected monuments are maintained and conserved by the Archaeological Survey of India as per archaeological norms and principles depending upon the availability of resources and needs of intervention. The policy of Archaeological Survey of India is to protect and preserve monuments and sites declared as of national importance without compromising their authenticity and integrity.

(b)&(c) Yes, Sir. The Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany has given a grant to the Aga Khan Foundation India for the conservation of Chaunsath Khambha, a Mughal era tomb in Hazrat Nizamuddin Basti of Delhi. The conservation work include housing improvement scheme around the monument. The total works are expected to cost rupees two crores out of which the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany has contributed half the cost.

(d)to(f) The Archaeological Survey of India maintains monuments and sites declared as of national importance on regular basis, depending upon their needs, within the available manpower and financial resources. In addition to this, tourist-related amenities (e.g. drinking water, toilet blocks, facilities for physically challenged, pathways, cultural notices, signage, vehicle parking, cloak rooms, etc.) are provided at some important centrally protected monuments/sites.

The expenditure incurred on conservation/preservation and environmental development of centrally protected monuments in Haryana and Ancient Site, Haripurgarh, District Mayurbhanja in Odisha during the last three years and the current year is at Annexure.

(g) No, Sir, so far as centrally protected monuments are concerned.

(h)&(i) Questions do not arise.