GOVERNMENT OF INDIA CULTURE LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION N0:5404 ANSWERED ON:06.09.2011 PROMOTION OF MONUMENTS Dashmunsi Deepa ;Dutt Smt. Priya Sunil;Ganpatrao Shri Jadhav Prataprao;Panda Shri Baijayant;Pradhan Shri Nityananda;Thamaraiselvan Shri R.;Viswanathan Shri P.

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of both protected and unprotected monuments and sites in the States of Maharasthra and West Bengal, separately;

(b) the details of funds allocated and utilized for maintenance and conservation of the protected monuments in the said States during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government proposes to develop and promote the Adilabad Fort in Delhi and all Buddhist sites in the State of Odisha;

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the Government proposes to undertake more excavation and exploration activities in the country; particularly in the State of Tamil Nadu to further throw light on history of their civilizations; and

(f) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to preserve the world heritage monuments in the country and make them accessible to visitors throughout the years?

Answer

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

(a) The detailed list of 285 centrally protected monuments, archaeological sites and remains in Maharashtra and 133 in West Bengal under the jurisdiction of Archaeological Survey of India is at Annexure-I and II respectively. No comprehensive survey of unprotected monuments in the country has been undertaken by the Archaeological Survey of India.

(b) The funds allocated and spent on conservation, preservation, maintenance and development of environs of these centrally protected monuments during the last three years and for the current year is as under:

Maharashtra 2008-09 2009-10 2010-11 2011-12
 (upto Aug.'11)
Allocation 750.15 785.00 705.00 655.00
Expenditure 750.14 784.99 704.98 377.46
West Bengal 2008-09 2009-10 2010-11 2011-12
 (upto July'11)
Allocation 382.00 338.00 417.00 380.00
Expenditure 373.15 329.50 416.31 89.18

Rupees in lakhs

(c) & (d) The ASI maintains all the centrally protected monuments and sites, including Adilabad Fort in Delhi and Buddhist sites in Odisha, on regular basis, depending upon their special needs, within the available manpower and financial resources. The centrally protected monuments/sites are in a fairly good state of preservation.

(e) At present, Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has no plan/proposal to undertake more excavation particularly in the State of Tamil Nadu.

(f) All world heritage sites are in a good state of conservation and are being regularly maintained by Archaeological Survey of India as per existing international charters and guidelines. In addition to the conservation, preservation, maintenance and development of environs of the world heritage sites, creation of tourist-related amenities (e.g. drinking water, toilet blocks, facilities for physically challenged, pathways, cultural notice boards/signage, vehicle parking, cloak rooms, etc are also among the regular activities which the ASI undertakes as per needs and availability of resources.