

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:267
ANSWERED ON:13.12.2011
SECURITY TO MONUMENTS
Chavan Shri Harischandra Deoram

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the work undertaken for providing amenities to the tourists visiting temples and monuments during the last three years and the current year;
- (b) the details of the expenditure incurred on the same during the above period, year-wise;
- (c) whether steps have been taken by the Government to provide adequate security to such monuments; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

Answer

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

(a)to(d) A statement is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) to (d) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.267 FOR 13.12.2011

There are 3,677 monuments/sites declared as of national importance in the country under Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958. These monuments/sites are conserved, preserved and maintained by way of structural repairs on need basis, as per archaeological norms, as per resources. In addition to conservation, preservation, maintenance and development of environs in and around centrally protected monuments, providing amenities (e.g. drinking water, toilet blocks, facilities for physically challenged, pathways, cultural notice boards/signage, vehicle parking, cloak rooms, etc.) to the tourists visiting the monuments and sites are also regular activities which the Archaeological Survey of India undertakes, as per needs and resources. Further, improvement and upgradation of these public amenities are a continuous processes, wherein works at different monuments are taken up every year. Basic public facilities are available at all World Heritage Sites and ASI's ticketed monuments, as also at the majority of those protected monuments that are visited by large numbers of tourists.

The expenditure incurred on conservation, preservation and environmental development, including providing of tourist amenities on centrally protected monuments/sites in the country, during the last three years and the allocation for the current year, is as under:

Year Expenditure

(rupees in crores)

2008-09 Rs.134.99

2009-10 Rs.153.00

2010-11 Rs.161.53

2011-12 Rs.130.35

(Allocation)

Archaeological Survey of India has deployed regular watch & ward staff, and has engaged the services of private security guards and State Police personnel for the safety and protection of centrally protected monuments and the tourists visiting the monuments/sites. In addition, CISF personnel have been deployed at Taj Mahal, Agra and Red Fort, Delhi. The details are at Annexure.

