

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2172
ANSWERED ON:27.03.2012
CONSERVATION OF ANCIENT CAVES
Danve Shri Raosaheb Patil;Naranbhai Shri Kachhadia

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government/ Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) protects ancient and historical caves in the country including Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and Jharkhand;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) whether the ASI has taken steps to conserve and preserve the said caves especially the Ajanta and Ellora Caves in Maharashtra in a scientific manner;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the details of financial assistance allocated for the said purpose during the last one year, cave-wise?

Answer

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

- (a)(b)&(e) The State-wise details of protected caves of Archaeological Survey of India and funds allocated during the current financial year for conservation are given in annexure.
- (c)&(d) The conservation work on caves, including Ajanta & Ellora Caves in Maharashtra, is attended to regularly, depending on the need for the repairs and availability of resources. For conservation work, wherever found necessary, the technical advice is taken from reputed Government agencies in the country.