

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5282  
ANSWERED ON:08.05.2012  
MAINTENANCE OF HISTORICAL SITES  
Meghwal Shri Arjun Ram

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

- (a) whether the Government is implementing any scheme to protect and maintain places/sites which have significance to the history and culture of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Union Government has received proposals from various quarters including the State Government of Rajasthan for development and maintenance of important places/sites;
- (d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken thereon, proposal – wise; and
- (e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to preserve relics/remnants of Indian culture and civilizations located in the country?

**Answer**

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

(a)&(b) As per the existing policy of the Government, the monuments/sites 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.

(c)&(d) The details are at Annexure. However there is no proposal from State Government of Rajasthan.

(e) Every year review of the status of monuments/sites of the ASI declared as of national importance is taken up. A number of monuments are identified for taking up structural repairs of special nature. The conservation programme is drawn up accordingly and funds are provided for the same. For sustained preservation of the remaining sites/monuments, routine maintenance comprising removal of vegetation, maintenance, minor repair works such as patch plastering, pointing, water-tightening, masonry, etc. is also taken up.