

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:551

ANSWERED ON:15.05.2012

VAISAKHA SAKA CONSERVATION OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL STRUCTURE

Punia Shri P.L.

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government/Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has taken note of the deficiencies/lack of safety of the structures of various forts including Jaisalmer Fort in Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has taken steps to undertake repair work and conservation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the funds made available and utilised for the purpose during the last two years and the status of progress made in this regard?

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. 551 FOR 15.05.2012.

(a) & (b) There are 162 Centrally protected monuments including 9 Forts in Rajasthan. The Forts in Rajasthan are in a good state of preservation. However, in Jaisalmer Fort due to habitation, commercial activities and unauthorised occupation of the bastions as well as improper drainage and sewerage system within the fort, the fortification wall and bastions at a few locations are in a damaged state.

(c) & (d) The conservation of monuments is a continuous process. Every year special repair works are taken up at the selected monuments, including Forts, in Rajasthan depending upon the need of repairs and availability of resources. However, annual routine maintenance is attended to at all the protected monuments including Forts. The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has initiated necessary steps for conservation and repair of Jaisalmer Fort under the Pilot Project funded jointly by Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) and National Culture Fund (NCF) based on scientific & technical studies undertaken to understand geology of the hill, and issues pertaining to water seepage and drainage. The funds allocated and utilized for the conservation of monuments including forts in Rajasthan during the last two years are as under:

(Rs. IN LAKHS)

Year	Funds allocated	Funds utilized
2010-11	350.00	350.00
2011-12	445.50	445.49