

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2935
ANSWERED ON:11.12.2012
MAINTENANCE OF MEMORIALS
Agarwal Shri Jai Prakash

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is maintaining memorials and mausoleums of various persons in the country;
- (b) if so, the details of the works undertaken during the last three years in this regard; and
- (c) the steps being taken by the Government to decongest the memorials and historically important sites and their nearby areas and to re-develop these sites?

Answer

MINISTER OF CULTURE (SMT. CHANDRESH KUMARI KATOCH)

a) The memorials of various personalities are maintained by the respective State Governments/local Municipalities. However, Central Government through Ministry of Urban Development is looking after the upkeep and maintenance of the Samadhis adjacent to Rajghat New Delhi, Morarji Desai's Samadhi at Abhay Ghat at Ahmedabad and the Rajiv Gandhi Memorial at Sriperumbudur. All of these are memorials of late Prime Ministers of India whose last rites were performed at these Samadhis, except Sriperumbudur where Shri Rajiv Gandhi, former Prime Minister of India, was assassinated. The list of these Samadhis is enclosed at Annexure-I. Besides, the Archeological Survey of India (ASI) is looking after the maintenance/upkeep of memorials/mausoleums (enclosed at Annexure-II).

(b) The work of routine nature relating to maintenance and upkeep of the memorials/mausoleums, as referred to in Annexure-I & II, like civil repairs, landscaping, horticulture etc. are undertaken by the concerned agencies on need basis from time to time.

(c) Necessary steps to make the nearby area of these memorials and historically important places free from encroachment/crowds are taken by the respective agencies with the cooperation of the State Government. Action for redevelopment of the memorials/mausoleums, as referred in Annexure I and II, is taken on need basis as per requirement in the case.