

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:287

ANSWERED ON:26.02.2013

CULTURAL HERITAGE CENTRES SITES

Patil Shri C. R. ;Swamygowda Shri N Cheluvarya Swamy

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the cultural heritage centres and heritage spots identified in various parts of the country during each of the last three years and the current year, State and location-wise;
- (b) the number of proposals received by the Union Government/ Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) from the various States including Surat district of Gujarat for inclusion, preservation and conservation of these sites along with the present status thereof, State-wise;
- (c) the details of the States which have requested to provide separate grants for maintenance of heritage structures, temples and the action taken thereon, State-wise;
- (d) the number of cultural heritage centres preserved and maintained in the country along with the funds sanctioned, released and utilised for the purpose during the said period, State-wise; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Union Government/ASI for promotion of such preserved cultural heritage sites in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF CULTURE SMT. CHANDRESH KUMARI KATOCH

(a) (b)(c)(d)&(e) There is no provision under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958 and Rules, 1959 to declare or recognize Cultural Heritage Centres and heritage spots. However, as per section 4 of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958, ancient monuments or archaeological sites and remains, as the case may be, which are of historical, archaeological or artistic interest, and have been in existence for not less than 100 years, may be declared by the Central Government as of national importance. 3678 monuments/sites have been declared as of national importance in the country. A State-wise Abstract is placed at Annexure-I. So far as Surat District is concerned, no proposal have been received regarding protection, preservation and conservation of any ancient monument from State Government of Gujarat. The State-wise expenditure incurred for conservation, preservation and maintenance of these monuments/ sites during the last three years and allocation for the current year (2012-13) is at Annexure-II. Recognising that States have specific issues and local needs, the XIII Finance Commission has recommended a quantum of grants amounting to Rs. 1454.00 crore to 21 States for the development of Heritage and Culture for the period 2011-2015. These recommendations have been accepted by the Ministry of Finance. Based on the proposals received from the State Governments, Ministry of Culture recommended the release of grants to 15 States against which Ministry of Finance have so far released a total of Rs. 285.02 crore to 13 States. Grants to the remaining 6 States were not recommended/released due to non-receipt of proposals and working plans. A statement indicating these details is placed at Annexure III. Does not arise.