

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1341
ANSWERED ON:05.03.2013
JANTAR MANTAR
Maadam Shri Vikrambhai Arjanbhai

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that many apparatus of Jantar Mantar, World Heritage monument have become useless as multi-storey buildings have been built near Jantar Mantar;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether the Government has laid down any policy regarding construction works near archaeological sites including Jantar Mantar;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken/being taken to protect the said monuments?

Answer

MINISTER OF CULTURE (SMT. CHANDRESH KUMARI KATOCH)

(a)& (b) No, Madam. The apparatuses of Jantar Mantar are operational and support the measurements for which they are designed despite coming up of multi-storeyed buildings at Janpath. Nehru Planetarium and other agencies are carrying out regular experiments and study for this purpose from time to time.

(c)&(d) The institutional mechanism has been provided under the provisions of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains (Amendment and Validation) Act 2010, to deal with the applications for grant of permission to undertake repairs/renovation/re-construction or construction in the 'prohibited' and 'regulated' areas near the protected monument or archaeological sites as the case may be.

(e) The persons having buildings or houses in the prohibited area (100 metres from protected monuments) of any centrally protected monument/site may undertake repairs and renovation after obtaining permission from the Competent Authority on the recommendation of the National Monuments Authority. Further, in case of regulated area (200 metres further beyond prohibited area) the persons may undertake construction, reconstruction, repairs and renovation only after obtaining permission from the Competent Authority on the recommendation of National Monuments Authority.

The provisions of Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains (Amendment and Validation) Act. 2010, are enforced in a holistic way to prevent new constructions.