

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2465

ANSWERED ON:12.03.2013

ENCROACHMENTS AT MONUMENTS

Dhotre Shri Sanjay Shamrao;Rao Shri Nama Nageswara;Wankhede Shri Subhash Bapurao

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of Centrally protected monuments in the country illegally encroached upon State/UT-wise;
- (b) whether the local bodies concerned are not supporting the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) to remove such encroachments;
- (c) if so, the persons responsible for allowing encroachments upon these lands and the details of the action taken against the persons involved in such activity;
- (d) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to keep such monuments free from encroachments;
- (e) whether the ASI and the State Archaeology departments had done only cosmetic changes for removal of encroachments around the Golconda Fort and repair of arches and clearing of debris around Charminar, which were not to the satisfaction of the UNESCO team who visited there; and
- (f) if so, the action proposed to be taken to remove encroachments at and around the said monuments and for repairing of arches?

Answer

MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRIMATI CHANDRESH KUMARI KATOCH)

- (a) Detail of illegal encroachment is at Annexure-I.
- (b) Constant follow up and coordination is required to enlist the support of local bodies to the Archeological Survey of India (ASI) to remove encroachments.
- (c) As and when encroachments are noticed, field offices of ASI lodge FIR with local police under the provision of the Ancient Monument and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958.
- (d) On report of encroachment at any monument Police complaints are filed. Show Cause Notice is issued to defaulter to remove the said encroachment. If no action is taken, demolition order is issued to Collector for removal of the said encroachment. Recourse to Court of law is availed of as a last resort.
- (e) The ASI and the State Archaeological Department have carried out major conservation and developmental works to the satisfaction of the UNESCO team.
- (f) Soon after detecting the encroachments, Hyderabad Circle of ASI issued show cause notice to the violators and removal orders to the concerned Revenue Authorities for their eviction as per the provision of Ancient Monument and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958.