

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3418  
ANSWERED ON:18.03.2013  
PROTECTION OF TAJ MAHAL FROM POLLUTION  
Agarwal Shri Jai Prakash

**Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government has formulated/proposes to formulate any scheme to reduce the environmental pollution around Taj Mahal and other historical monuments;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, monument-wise;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the funds allocated and expenditure incurred thereon during the last three years?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN)

(a)to(c) In the first phase, during the IX Five Year Plan, the Ministry of Environment and Forests had formulated and implemented a scheme for the environmental protection of Taj Mahal. An amount of Rs. 222.21 crore was sanctioned towards 10 projects which had direct impact on the environmental condition of the Taj Mahal and other historical monuments, on the basis of 50:50 cost sharing with the Government of Uttar Pradesh.

The details of the projects are annexed. The Government of India has also notified a Taj Trapezium Zone Pollution (Prevention and Control) Authority in the year 1998 to monitor progress of implementation of various schemes in this Zone. The Central Pollution Control Board is monitoring ambient air quality at 542 locations including Taj Mahal and other historical monuments. The Archaeological Survey of India has also established monitoring stations for the monitoring of ambient air quality / metrological parameters in the vicinity of Ajanta Caves, Ajanta, Taj Mahal, Agra Fort and Sikandra at Agra, Sravanabelgola, District Hassan and Charminar, Hyderabad.

(d) The Ministry has not allocated any funds for expenditure during the last three years.