

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5552

ANSWERED ON:30.04.2013

CRITERIA FOR CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES NEAR PROTECTED MONUMENTS

Rajendran Shri C.

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has fixed any norms criteria for carrying out construction activities near protected monuments;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has relaxed the restriction for construction activities within 100 metres of the protected monuments;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government is aware that Mahabalipuram in Tamil Nadu has a number of protected monuments and no activity is being undertaken because of the said restriction; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government to address this issue in and around Mahabalipuram?

Answer

MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRIMATI CHANDRESH KUMARI KATOCH)

(a)&(b) As per the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains (Amendment & Validation) Act, 2010, and Rules framed thereunder, the Competent Authority is empowered to grant permission for repairs or renovations of buildings or structures located in the prohibited area (100 meters from protected limit) and construction or re-construction or repairs or renovations of any building or structure located in the regulated area (200 meters beyond the prohibited area) of centrally protected monument/ area.

(c)&(d) No, Madam.

(e)&(f) Yes, Madam. So far as restriction on construction related activities are concerned, the interested persons may undertake such activities in the regulated area of the protected monuments after obtaining permission from the Competent Authority. Even in the prohibited area the interested persons may carry out repairs or renovations in the existing buildings after obtaining permission from the Competent Authority. The Government has imposed restrictions on construction activities only in the area within 300 meters of the protected limits of the monuments and hence the interested persons are free to undertake such activities beyond 300 meters of the monument, subject to other applicable Laws.