

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2128

ANSWERED ON:02.12.2009

DAMAGE TO HERITAGE STRUCTURES/ SITES

Dhotre Shri Sanjay Shamrao;Ganeshamurthi Shri A.;Singh Shri Dushyant

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a large number of heritage structures / sites are under threat of destruction;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to bring out legislation for protection of these structures;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the measures taken by the Government to protect the heritage structures / sites in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR PLANNING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY)

(a)to(d) No, Sir. All the centrally protected monuments under Archaeological Survey of India are in good state of preservation. The provisions of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains (AMASR) Act 1958 in vogue are sufficient to take care of the monuments and there is no proposal to bring out any new legislation, in this regard. However, the National Commission for Heritage Sites Bill, 2009 already introduced in the Rajya Sabha, would facilitate formation of short and long term policies for conservation, protection and management of even those heritage sites that are presently unprotected.

(e) As per the provisions of the AMASR Act – 1958, the monuments of national importance have been declared protected. The conservation work at these monuments is attended regularly depending upon the need of the repairs and availability of the resources.