

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4174

ANSWERED ON:16.12.2009

CONSERVATION OF RELIGIOUS SHRINES AND TEMPLES IN GUJARAT

Vasava Shri Mansukhbhai D.

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Archaeological Survey of India had taken any steps/measures to protect and preserve the religious shrines and temples in Gujarat so as to promote religious tourism in the State;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the work undertaken so far in this regard; and
- (c) the amount of funds spent during the last three years and the current year?

Answer

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

(a) Yes, Sir. There are 91 religious sites and temples declared as of national importance in Gujarat and protected & maintained by Archaeological Survey of India.

(b) In addition to proper conservation, preservation and maintenance of these monuments, the tourist related amenities viz. drinking water facilities, toilets blocks, signages, ramps and wheel chairs for the disabled person have been provided. The surroundings of these monuments have been developed by landscaping, pathways, etc. for the benefit of the tourists.

(c) The details of expenditure incurred on these monuments/sites during the last three years and the current year upto Nov.2009 are:

2006-07	Rs.37.88 lakhs
2007-08	Rs.44.39 lakhs
2008-09	Rs.158.10 lakhs
2009-10	Rs.56.45 lakhs

(upto Nov.09)