

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1148  
ANSWERED ON:12.08.2013  
EFFECT OF POLLUTION ON TAJ MAHAL  
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 along with the action taken by the Government in this regard;
- (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 ambient air quality is being monitored at 8 locations at Taj Mahal and other historical monuments at Agra. 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, Sravanabelgola, District Hassan and Charminar, Hyderabad.

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