

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:276

ANSWERED ON:06.08.2013

SUBMERGED TEMPLES IN HIMACHAL PRADESH

Thakur Shri Anurag Singh

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Himachal Pradesh Government has requested the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) regarding shifting of 12 temples of archaeological importance out of the 28 temples which have been submerged in Govind Sagar in Himachal Pradesh due to construction of the Bhakra Nagal Dam and for repairing of the Mirkula Devi Temple;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has taken any steps/action on the said requests;

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the time by which the said temples are likely to be relocated to the identified sites by the Union/State Governments along with the reasons for not shifting the temples and repairing the Mirkula Devi Temple, till date?

Answer

MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRIMATI CHANDRESH KUMARI KATOCH)

(a)to(e) Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) is entrusted with the responsibility of conservation of protected monuments of national importance. The requests of State Governments for conservation of monuments, not protected by ASI, are considered as Deposit Works for which funds are to be provided by the concerned State Government. In the case of shifting of submerged temples from Govind Sagar reservoir, which are not protected monuments of ASI, the State Government has neither deposited any funds with ASI nor provided any land for their transplantation, due to which this work could not be taken up. For Mirkula Devi Temple the essential conservation work is attended to regularly and it is in a good state of preservation.