

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:236  
ANSWERED ON:06.08.2013  
USE OF VACANT LAND NEAR MONUMENTS  
Kurup Shri N.Peethambara

**Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether huge funds are being spent by the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) on the maintenance and preservation of historical monuments and heritage sites in the country;
- (b) if so, whether the Government has explored the possibility of hiring out the vacant land around the monuments for holding small functions/parties/festivals etc. against payment of certain percentage of gate money or fixed amount to meet the expenditure for the maintenance/preservation of the monuments; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRIMATI CHANDRESH KUMARI KATOCH)

- (a) Funds are spent by Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) for maintenance and preservation of protected historical monuments and heritage sites in the country as per the budget allocations to the ASI.
- (b) The ASI permits usage of specific protected areas of some selected centrally & protected monuments/sites in the country for holding cultural events by
- (c) Government Department and Public sector organizations, of high standard, preferably classical music, dance and drama on payment of charges, ranging from Rs. 10,000/- to Rs. 50,000/- per day for different monuments. These charges are deposited in the Consolidated Fund of Government of India, whereas the expenditure for conservation work of the protected monuments is met under allocations in the regular budget of the ASI.