

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:166

ANSWERED ON:17.12.2013

PRESERVATION OF PROTECTED MONUMENTS .

Nagar Shri Surendra Singh;Rawat Shri Ashok Kumar

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the cultural heritage centres, historical monuments and heritage spots identified in various parts of the country including in Karnataka by the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) during each of the last three years and the current year, State and location-wise;
- (b) the number of proposals received by the Government/ASI from the various States for inclusion, preservation and conservation of these sites/monuments along with the present status thereof during the said period, State/UT-wise;
- (c) the details of the States which have requested to provide separate grants for maintenance of heritage structures, temples, monuments etc. and the action taken thereon during the said period, State/UT-wise;
- (d) the number of cultural heritage centres/monuments preserved and maintained in the country along with the funds sanctioned, released and utilised for the purpose during the said period, State/UT-wise; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government/ASI for promotion of such preserved cultural heritage sites/ monuments in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRIMATI CHANDRESH KUMARI KATOCH)

(a)to(e) A statement is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) TO (e) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.166 FOR 17.12.2013

(a) Presently there are 25 proposals received from various parts of the country for protection of monuments. As per sub-section 4(1) of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958, the Central Government may after detailed scrutiny, verification of revenue records, ownership issues, preparation of site plan, etc. take a decision to issue notification in the Gazette of India inviting objections/suggestions from interested persons on its intention to declare the same as of national importance. The list of monuments/sites (State-wise) identified for declaration as of national importance have been mentioned in Annexure-I.

(b) The Archaeological Survey of India has not received any proposal from State/U.T. for protection of monuments during the last three years and the current year.

(c) The details of the States to whom separate grants for maintenance of heritage structures, temples, monuments etc. is allocated under the XIII Finance Commission are at Annexure-II.

(d) The monuments/sites which have been declared as of national importance in the country at Annexure-III. The State-wise expenditure incurred for conservation, preservation and maintenance of these monuments/sites during the last three years and allocation for the current year is at Annexure-IV.

(e) Providing basic facilities/amenities (e.g. drinking water, toilet blocks, facilities for physically challenged, pathways, cultural notice boards/signage, vehicle parking, cloak rooms, etc.) to the tourists visiting protected monuments and sites are regular activities which the Archaeological Survey of India undertakes, as per needs and resources. Further, improvement and upgradation of these public amenities is a continuous process, where specific monuments are identified for the purpose every year. Basic public facilities are available at all World Heritage Sites and ASI's ticketed monuments, as also at majority of those protected monuments that are visited by a large numbers of tourists.