

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:467  
ANSWERED ON:27.04.2015  
ENCROACHMENT ON MONUMENTS  
K. Shri Parasuraman

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

- (a) whether a number of historical and protected buildings/ structures/sites /monuments have been illegally encroached upon by certain individuals and groups in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with number of the complaints received during last three years from individuals/bodies in the matter, State/UT-wise including Tamil Nadu;
- (c) the action taken to keep such monuments free from encroachment; and
- (d) the number of encroachments removed by the Archaeological Survey of India during each of the last three years, State and monument-wise?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE, CULTURE AND TOURISM (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) AND MINISTER OF STATE, CIVIL AVIATION (DR. MAHESH SHARMA)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) TO (d) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 467 FOR 27.04.2015

(a)&(b) There are instances of 278 numbers of encroachments in some of the centrally protected monuments in the country and State-wise list of monuments having encroachment is at Annexure-I. Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) takes action for removal of encroachments whenever it is noticed by ASI officials without waiting for any complaints from individuals or bodies.

(c) The encroachments in the protected monuments and protected areas are removed as per the provisions contained in the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958 and Rules, 1959 framed thereunder. Superintending Archaeologists are also authorised to issue show cause notices under the provisions of Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act 1958 and Rules 1959 followed by a direction to the District Collector/Magistrate by Central Government to remove such encroachment under section 19 (2) of the Act and Rule 38 (2). In order to contain the encroachments and removing them, the Superintending Archaeologist in charge of the Circles have been vested with the powers of an Estate Officer to issue eviction notices/orders to the encroachers under Public Premises

(Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act, 1971. Further, assistance in such cases is also sought from the respective State Government/police and where there are no fruitful results actions are initiated against the encroachers by filing cases in the court of law. In addition to the regular watch and ward staff, private security personnel, State police guards and CISF have also been deployed for the safety and security of selected monuments. The Ministry of Culture has also requested the State Governments to form coordination committee comprising State and Archaeological Survey of India officials to solve the problem.

(d) The details of monuments from where the encroachments have been removed during the last three years and the current year are at Annexure-II.