

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4677
ANSWERED ON:12.08.2014
PROTECTION OF GOND ERA REMNANTS
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Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government/ Archaeological Survey of India proposes to take any action to protect Gond era remnants, monuments, temples and ramparts in the country including Maharashtra;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise;
- (c) whether 600 years old Chandrapur Fort and Anchleshwar temple of Gond era are in dilapidated condition due to negligence and indifference of the Archaeological Survey of India and if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to issue necessary directions to the concerned agency for repairing and maintenance of the ancient Gond era remnants, monuments, temples and forts to protect them; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (IC) CULTURE & TOURISM (SHRI SHRIPAD NAIK)

(a) & (b) Archaeological Survey of India is responsible for protection, conservation and maintenance of 3680 monuments, archaeological sites and remains declared as of national importance in the country including 285 monuments/sites in Maharashtra. The State-wise list of centrally protected monuments/sites in the country is at Annexure-I. These monuments/sites are conserved, preserved and maintained by way of structural repairs on need basis, as per archaeological norms, subject to availability of resources. The monuments/sites/remains are not categorized as per era/periodicity.

However, the conservation, preservation and maintenance of the following centrally protected monuments of Gond era in Maharashtra are proposed at (1) Gond Raja's tomb, Chandrapur, (2) Fort wall, Chandrapur (3) Mahakali temple at Chandrapur, (4) Fort at Ballarpur (5) Anchaleshwar Temple, Chandrapur (all in district Chandrapur), (6) Fort at Vairagad and (7) Old temple at Armori (all in Gadchiroli district) by including in the Annual Conservation Programme during the current financial year.

(c) Due to action of natural weathering and age factor the fort is damaged at places which has been identified and taken up for conservation. The Anchaleshwar temple is in satisfactory condition, however fort wall near the temple is damaged and repairs are going on. The expenditure incurred for conservation and maintenance of these monuments during the last three years and allocation for the current year is as under:

(Rupees in lakhs)

Name of the Monument	1011-12	2012-13	2013-14	Allocation for 2014-15
Fort wall of Chandrapur	13.77	2.66	5.33	38.00
Anchaleshwar temple	00	00	00	0.50

(d) & (e) The centrally protected monuments/sites are conserved, preserved and maintained by Archaeological Survey of India by way of structural repairs on need basis, as per archaeological norms, subject to availability of resources. For taking up conservation and maintenance of Gondera remnants and monuments under the jurisdiction of Archaeological Survey of India in Maharashtra, annual conservation programme has already been approved by the ASI. The Statement showing the provision made for conservation and maintenance for Gond era monuments in Maharashtra is at Annexure-II.