

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2487

ANSWERED ON:08.12.2014

AIMING FOR ENERGY EFFICIENCY BY ASI

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Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) spent huge amount on electricity for lighting of monuments in the country;
- (b) if so, the expenditure incurred annually on electricity bills during the last three years, year-wise;
- (c) whether ASI has initiated model project for energy efficiency aiming to reduce the electricity bill;
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with projected reduction of electricity consumption annually;
- (e) whether ASI will extend the project to other monuments in the country which will reduce the cost of maintenance and conservation of these sites; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken by ASI in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) No Madam. The opening time of most of the protected monuments of Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) to the public is from sun rise to sun set. Thus demand of electricity for lighting of a few important monuments only during night for a limited period is normal. Details of total expenditure incurred during the last three years for payment of electricity bills for lighting of protected monuments, spread throughout the country, from different offices of ASI, are being collected.

(c) to (f) No such project has been taken up. However, towards the use of renewable energy, solar panels have been installed at some monuments, where it is not visually distracting, to meet up the electricity demand partly. Due to requirements of maintaining originality, aesthetics, visual look, authenticity and integrity of monuments, such type of measures have limited scope