

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CULTURE  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1124**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08.02.2021

**INSECT ATTACK ON MONUMENTS**

1124. SHRI RAJ KUMAR CHAHAR:

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the recurring problem of Goeldichironomus insect, which attacks Taj Mahal, Agra Fort & Etmadaulla monuments at Agra & Fatehpur Sikri every year since 2015;
- (b) whether any action has been taken to deal with this problem, including conducting any study of the problem;
- (c) if so, the recommendations made in such study and the details of the action(s) taken or proposed to be taken;
- (d) whether the de-silting of Yamuna has also been recommended in the above study; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR CULTURE & TOURISM

(PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL)

- (a) Yes Sir. The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) is aware of this problem in indicated monuments at Agra. No such problem has been noticed so far at Fatehpur Sikri.
- (b) Yes Sir. The Science Branch of ASI has conducted the required study in this regard.
- (c) The recommendations made in the study includes scientific cleaning and preservation of the monument fabric, de-silting of Yamuna river and cleaning & removal of vegetation growth from the river banks. The action taken comprises proper cleaning and conservation/ preservation of the monument including cleaning of river banks and removal of vegetation growth.
- (d) Yes Sir.
- (e) The recommendations include de-silting and cleaning of the Yamuna river, clean the river banks, increase the water flow in the river and prevent stagnation of the water.

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