

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CULTURE
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1947
ANSWERED ON 12.12.2024

MISSING ASI-PROTECTED MONUMENTS

1947 SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the reasons cited for the disappearance of the 50 ASI-protected monuments as reported to Parliament, including any specific challenges faced by the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) in their preservation;
- (b) the measures being taken by Government to locate these missing monuments and to prevent further occurrences of such incidents;
- (c) the details of the protocols established for monitoring the status of centrally protected monuments, including frequency of inspections and reporting; and
- (d) the impact of the disappearance of these monuments on cultural heritage tourism and local communities?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE AND TOURISM
(SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

- (a)& The performance Audit Report of Comptroller and Auditor General of India (18 of 2013)
- (b) has stated that 92 protected monuments are missing. Subsequent survey undertaken by Archeological Survey of India (ASI) through its various field offices revealed that 18 protected monuments and sites are not in good state of preservation. During the survey field offices of ASI noticed pressure due to rapid urbanization as one the major challenges impacting monuments. Further, watch and ward is provided at monuments through Multi Tasking Staff, private security guards and CISF. Besides, periodic inspections are also undertaken.
- (c)& National Policy for Conservation adopted by ASI stipulates regular inspections of
- (d) protected monuments to ascertain status. Primarily, officials in Sub-circles and Circles of ASI undertake regular inspections of monuments. Further, officers from Regional Directorate and Headquarters, also inspect and monitor status of monuments.
