

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CULTURE
RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. *214
TO BE ANSWERED ON 12.03.2026**

RESTORATION OF MONUMENTS

***214. DR. ASHOK KUMAR MITTAL:**

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the reasons why ASI-managed monuments are deteriorating due to delayed restoration work;
- (b) whether staff shortages or insufficient funding have been identified as major causes and if so, the details thereof and if not, what other reasons have been identified therefor;
- (c) the reasons why preventive conservation is not being implemented despite repeated audit observations; and
- (d) whether the Ministry is addressing misuse of funds meant for structural repairs and preservation, and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF CULTURE AND TOURISM
(SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) TO (d) OF THE RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *214 FOR 12.03.2026.

- (a) There are 3686 centrally protected monuments/sites under the care and maintenance of Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) and there is no monument/site in deteriorating condition due to delayed restoration work.

- (b) ASI takes up conservation work of all centrally protected monuments/sites as per the need of the monuments and availability of resources. There is no staff shortage and insufficient funding for conservation of centrally protected monuments.

- (c) Preventive conservation is regularly implemented by the field offices. Daily maintenance, general upkeep of monuments, removal of vegetation, etc is regularly carried out to keep the monument presentable and in a good state of preservation.

- (d) ASI takes up conservation work as per the approved ACP/Estimate duly approved by the Competent Authority and expenditure is incurred as per the approved ACP/Estimate. Guidelines have been issued to field offices to follow General Financial Rules, Archaeological Works Code, CVC guidelines and any other codal formalities and to maintain transparency.
