

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CULTURE
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3072
ANSWERED ON 19.03.2026

CONSERVATION OF MONUMENTS BY PRIVATE SECTOR

3072. SHRI IMRAN PRATAPGARHI:

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has decided to open conservation and maintenance of monuments protected by the Archaeological Survey of India by the private sector;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, including the policy framework, selection criteria, safeguards for heritage protection and the reasons for such decision;
- (c) the details of centrally protected monuments and sites delisted or newly notified during the last three years, State/UT-wise, particularly in Punjab;
- (d) whether measures have been taken to increase footfalls at these monuments; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF CULTURE AND TOURISM
(SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

- (a) Adopt A Heritage (AAH) 2.0 program has been launched, exclusively for protected monuments of national importance, to create a framework for engagement with private/public sector companies and NGOs/ Trusts/ Societies, etc., to develop/ provide a group of amenities at protected monuments to enhance visitors' experience and make them visitor-friendly, wherein the role of stakeholders or partnered entities is limited to the engagement in the non-conservational aspects viz., cleaning of monument premises, besides providing and maintaining basic tourist amenities like washrooms, drinking water, child care room, benches, pathways, garbage bins, signage, Sound and Light shows, illumination, etc. under the guidance and due consultation with ASI.

However, the work related to archaeological conservation and the preservation of protected monuments/sites is executed/supervised by ASI experts.

- (b) A donor/sponsor while making contributions to the NCF can indicate a project to be taken up for conservation or developing amenities around any monument. The conservation of protected monuments is executed/supervised by Archaeological Survey of India (ASI).

In addition, the details of 30 MoUs signed under Adopt A Heritage(AAH) 2.0 program is given at **Annexure I**.

- (c) The details of centrally protected monuments and sites delisted or newly notified during the last three years are given at **Annexure-II**.
- (d) Archaeological Survey of India, (ASI), through its field offices, organizes community- & driven and people-centric events, such as walkthroughs, talks, drawing and painting competitions for school and college students, photo exhibitions for visitors, and consultative meetings with locals and community stakeholders. These events are held on various occasions, including World Heritage Day, World Tourism Day, World Heritage Week, International Day of Yoga, among others, and at the time of various other national celebrations as and when entrusted with to raise awareness about the need for sensitization toward the protection of the country's age-old heritage.

Annexure-I

**ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (b) OF THE RAJYA SABHA
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MoUs signed under AAH 2.0

A total of 30 MoUs have been materialized, the details of which are as below:

| S.No. | Name of Monument | Entity | State |
|-------|--|--|----------------|
| 1. | Agra Fort, Agra (UP) | Ease My Trip Foundation | Uttar Pradesh |
| 2. | Mehrauli Archaeological Park, Delhi | Sabhyata Foundation | Delhi |
| 3. | Safdarjung Tomb, Delhi | Sabhyata Foundation | Delhi |
| 4. | Western Group of Temples, Khajuraho | Ease My Trip Foundation | Madhya Pradesh |
| 5. | Kailasanatha temple, Kanchipuram (TN) | Cholamandalam Investment and Finance Company Limited (CIFCL) | Tamil Nadu |
| 6. | Sun temple, Konark, Puri (Odisha) | Ease My Trip Foundation | Odisha |
| 7. | Elephanta Caves, Raigarh (Maharashtra) | Mahesh Enterprises and Infra India Private Limited | Maharashtra |
| 8. | Upper Fort Aguada, Goa | Drishti Lifesaving Pvt Ltd | Goa |
| 9. | PuranaQila, Delhi | Sabhyata Foundation | Delhi |
| 10. | QutubMinar, Delhi | Ease My Trip Foundation | Delhi |
| 11. | Humanyun's Tomb, Delhi | Sabhyata Foundation | Delhi |
| 12. | JantarMantar | Powerlinks Transmission Ltd | Delhi |
| 13. | Group of Monuments, HauzKhas | Tata Power Trading Pvt Ltd | Delhi |
| 14. | UgrasenkiBaoli | Zee Aakash | Delhi |
| 15. | Delhi Gate | Redtape Ltd | Delhi |
| 16. | Kashmere Gate and Mori Gate | Redtape Ltd | Delhi |
| 17. | Rock Shelters of Bhimbetka | HEG Ltd | Madhya Pradesh |
| 18. | Ajmeri Gate | Redtape Ltd | Delhi |
| 19. | Madrassa Mahmud Gawan | Shaheen Group of Institutions | Karnataka |
| 20. | Kamalapur Museum | JSW Foundation | Karnataka |

| | | | |
|-----|---|--|----------------|
| 21. | Tomb of Khan-i-Khana | Inter Globe Aviation Pvt Ltd (Indigo) | Delhi |
| 22. | Tomb of Najaf Khan | Sawasdee Projects Pvt Ltd | Delhi |
| 23. | Padma and Rani Talabs at Ranthambore Fort | Bisleri International Pvt Ltd | Rajasthan |
| 24. | BaoriAbaneri | Bisleri International Pvt Ltd | Rajasthan |
| 25. | BaoriNeemrana | Bisleri International Pvt Ltd | Rajasthan |
| 26. | BudhaBudhi pond at Kalinjar Fort | Bisleri International Pvt Ltd | Uttar Pradesh |
| 27. | Development of audio guides | Resbird Technologies | Multiple sites |
| 28. | Red Fort | Dalmia Bharat Limited | Delhi |
| 29. | Aga Khan Palace | DCB Bank | Maharashtra |
| 30. | Airavateswara Temple, Darasuram | Cholamandalam Investment and Finance Company Limited (CIFCL) | Tamil Nadu |

Annexure-II

**ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (c) OF THE RAJYA SABHA
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**DETAILS OF ANCIENT MONUMENTS AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES & REMAINS
CEASED TO BE OF NATIONAL IMPORTANCE DURING THE LAST THREE YEARS.**

| Sl. No. | Name of Monument | Locality | State/UT | Notification date |
|----------------|--|---|---------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. | Nicholson Statue and its platform, and the surrounding gardens, paths and enclosure wall | Outside the Kashmiri Gate, Delhi | Delhi NCT of Delhi | 02.12.2024 |
| 2. | Bara Khamba Cemetery | Imperial City | Delhi NCT of Delhi | 01.07.2025 |
| 3. | Inchla Wali Gumti | Mubarakpur Kotla | Delhi, NCT of Delhi | 01.07.2025 |
| 4. | Kos Minar No.13 | Village Mujessar | Haryana | 01.07.2025 |
| 5. | Kos Minar | Shahabad | Haryana | 01.07.2025 |
| 6. | Inscription in the fort of Bachhaun | Bachhaun | Madhya Pradesh | 01.07.2025 |
| 7. | Temple (12th Century) | Baran | Rajasthan | 01.07.2025 |
| 8. | Inscription in Fort | Nagar | Rajasthan | 01.07.2025 |
| 9. | A banyan grove of great antiquity containing traces of ancient buildings | Bharanli Ganga tir | Uttar Pradesh | 01.07.2025 |
| 10. | Closed Cemetery, Katra Naka | South-west of Banda City | Uttar Pradesh | 01.07.2025 |
| 11. | Gunner Burkill's Tomb at Rangoon | Rangoon | Uttar Pradesh | 01.07.2025 |
| 12. | Cemetery | Gaughat | Uttar Pradesh | 01.07.2025 |
| 13. | Cemeteries | At mile 6 and 8, Jahraila Road | Uttar Pradesh | 01.07.2025 |
| 14. | Tombs | In miles 3, 4 and 5, Lucknow-Fyzabad Road | Uttar Pradesh | 01.07.2025 |
| 15. | Remains of 3 small Linga temples to the north of the village Circa 1000 A.D. | Ahugi | Uttar Pradesh | 01.07.2025 |
| 16. | Telia Nala Buddhist ruins, forms part of deserted village | Varanasi | Uttar Pradesh | 01.07.2025 |
| 17. | Tablet on the Treasury Building | Varanasi | Uttar Pradesh | 01.07.2025 |
| 18. | Kutumbari area $\frac{13}{16}$ nalis | Dwarahat | Uttarakhand | 01.07.2025 |
