

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CULTURE
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 667
ANSWERED ON 05.02.2026

PROTECTION OF HERITAGE MONUMENTS FROM NATURAL HAZARDS

667. SMT. SUDHA MURTY

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has assessed the risks posed by natural hazards such as floods, lightning strikes, earthquakes, cyclones, extreme weather and environmental factors to protected monuments and heritage structures across the country; and
- (b) whether the Ministry proposes to strengthen preventive conservation, structural safety and disaster preparedness measures at such heritage sites, in coordination with State Governments and disaster-management authorities, while ensuring that established conservation principles are followed and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

- (a) There are 3686 centrally protected monuments/sites under the care and maintenance of & Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) in the country. All the monuments/sites are regularly
- (b) inspected by the ASI official/officers from time to time to assess the present condition of the monuments/sites and impact of climate factors, natural hazards such as floods, lightning strikes, earthquakes, cyclones, extreme weather and environmental factors to protected monuments and heritage structures across the country. ASI assesses the risk posed by extreme weather and environmental factors to preserve monuments/sites across the country by installing Automatic Weather Station (AWS) and monitoring the ambient air quality in the vicinity of selected monuments. The lightening conductors are also placed at the requisite monuments, wherever required.

Scientific treatment and preservation is also taken up as and when required by adopting key steps such as chemical treatment, consolidation, biocidal and hydrophobic treatment for mitigating the adverse effects of environmental/climate factor on heritage structures.

Furthermore, in coordination with State Governments and disaster-management authorities, ASI undertakes and proposes measures to strengthen preventive conservation, structural safety and disaster preparedness at heritage sites.
