

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CULTURE
RAJYASABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.513
ANSWERED ON 23.07.2026

ANCIENT MONUMENTS AND HERITAGE SITES IN SOUTH INDIA

513. SHRI R. DHARMAR:

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of ancient monuments and heritage sites in South India that are under the care of Archaeological Survey of India;
- (b) the measures being taken to preserve, restore and maintain these monuments, especially those that are deteriorating;
- (c) the funds allocated and utilized for the conservation of monuments in the southern States during the last five years;
- (d) the steps being taken to involve local communities and promote awareness about the protection of these heritage sites; and
- (e) the plans to enhance tourism and cultural activities around these monuments while ensuring their preservation?

ANSWER

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

- (a) There are 1100 monuments and sites (areas) declared as of national importance in South India, which are under the care and maintenance of the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI). The State-wise details are as under:

Sl. No	Name of State	Number of Monuments and Sites
1.	Andhra Pradesh	136
2.	Karnataka	506
3.	Kerala	30
4.	Pudduchery (UT)	07
5.	Tamil Nadu	412
6.	Telangana	09
Total		1100

- (b) Periodic inspections are carried out by ASI to assess the status of protected monuments and sites. Based on the requirement, works related to maintenance, preservation, restoration and conservation are taken up as a regular practice, in accordance with the National Conservation Policy, 2014, and subject to availability of resources. Further, no protected monument or site is in a deteriorating condition.--

- (c) The funds allocated and utilized during last five years on conservation of protected monuments and sites located in southern states under ASI is as follows:

(Rupees in Crores)

Financial Year	Allocation	Expenditure
2021-22	56.64	56.44
2022-23	94.48	94.48
2023-24	97.83	97.83
2024-25	67.48	67.44
2025-26	79.89	79.89

- (d) ASI promotes community participation and awareness through heritage walks, lectures, & exhibitions, competitions, guided tours and outreach programmesorganised on occasions such as
- (e) World Heritage Day, World Tourism, and World Heritage Week etc. Further, to enhance tourism while ensuring preservation, ASI has provided visitor amenities like as drinking water, toilets, Braille signage, QR code-based information systems, souvenir shops, and sound and light shows etc. at selected monuments and sites with high visitor footfall.
