

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CULTURE
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3198
Answered on 20.03.2023

IMPACT OF POLLUTION ON MONUMENTS

3198. SHRIMATI SUNITA DUGGAL:

Will the Minister of CULTURE pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken any steps to protect historical sites and monuments from effects of climate change and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government is aware of the adverse impact of pollution on the monuments and heritage sites;
- (c) if so, the measures taken by the Government to mitigate these adverse impacts and details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government has carried out any survey to study the impact of environmental pollution on monuments' structural integrity or preservation practices; and
- (e) If so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE, TOURISM AND DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION

(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)

- (a) Yes. Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has taken steps to protect historical sites and monuments from effects of climate change. To mitigate the climatic effects and retard further deterioration, scientific cleaning, consolidation & preservation works on protected monuments and sites are taken up regularly.
- (b) Yes. ASI is aware of the adverse impact of pollution on the monuments and heritage sites.
- (c) ASI has taken measures to mitigate these adverse impact adopting different conservation and preservation methodologies such as scientific conservation and preservation, clay pack, paper pulp and hydrophobic treatment.
- (d) ASI has carried out the survey to study the impact of environmental pollution on some monuments' structural integrity and preservation practices.
- (e) The chemical and physical parameters such as Oxides of sulphur and nitrogen, particulate matters, dust fall, rain fall, wind speed and temperature are monitored in the vicinity of some of the monuments to study the impact of pollutants.
