

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CULTURE
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.226
ANSWERED ON 29.11.2021**

ENCROACHMENT OF HINDU TEMPLES IN SOUTH INDIA

†226. SHRI ANURAG SHARMA:

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Hindu temples are registered in South India and out of these the number of temples that are under the Government administration and private management;
- (b) the details of those Hindu temples that are under encroachment in above both category;
- (c) the details of the instructions given by the Government of India to the State Governments to remove the encroachments from the temples in South India; and
- (d) whether these instructions have been followed and if not, the reason therefor?

ANSWER

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

(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)

- (a) There are 1097 monuments and sites which have been declared as Centrally Protected in the State of Andhra Pradesh (135), Karnataka (506), Kerala (29), Pudduchery- UT (07), Tamil Nadu (412) and Telangana (08). Out of these 448 are Temples.
- (b) The details of temples where encroachments reported are at **Annexure**.
- (c) & (d) Wherever encroachment is reported, notice is given to the defaulter to remove the same; failing which, Demolition Order is issued as per provisions of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958 with request to Commissioner or Collector to cause demolition of the encroachment. Sometimes litigations in various courts also cause delay in removal of encroachments.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (b) OF LOK SABHA
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Sl. No.	Name of Monument (Temple)	Locality	District	State
1	Gowrishwara Temple	Yelandur	Camarajanagar	Karnataka
2	Virupaksha Temple	Hampi	Ballary	Karnataka
3	Dhenuipuriswara Temple	Madambakkam	Kanchipurma	Tamil Nadu
4	Siva (Erumbeswaraswami) Temple	Tiruverumbur	Tiruchchirapalli	Tamil Nadu
5	Large Siva Temple (Apathsahayeswara Temple)	Thenneri	Kanchipuram	Tamil Nadu
6	Airavateswara Temple	Chattram- Darasuram	Thanjavur	Tamil Nadu
