

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CULTURE
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.†5096
TO BE ANSWERED ON 04.04.2022

IMPACT OF POLLUTION ON MONUMENTS

†5096. SHRIMATI SUMALATHA AMBAREESH:

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is true that the Government has put in place specific mechanism at selected monuments to assess the damage caused by pollution and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the total number of monuments selected after assessing the damage caused by pollution;
- (c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and district-wise; and
- (d) the funds allocated and spent for protection of national monuments?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF CULTURE, TOURISM AND DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION
(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)

- (a) Yes, Sir. The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has put in place specific mechanism to at select monuments to assess the damage caused by pollution. The Science Branch of
- (c) ASI regularly monitors the air quality and level of pollutants along with other physical parameters in the vicinity of select national monuments. Six monuments have been selected to assess the damage caused due to pollution.

The state wise and district wise details are given as under;

1. Bibi-Ka- Maqbara, District Aurangabad, Maharashtra
 2. Charminar, District Hyderabad, Telangana
 3. Shore Temple, Mahabalipuram, District Kanchipuram, Tamilnadu.
 4. Sri Brihadeswara Temple, District Thanjavur, Tamilnadu.
 5. Sun Temple, Konark, District Puri, Odisha.
 6. Taj Mahal, District Agra, Uttar Pradesh.
- (d) The funds allocated and spent by ASI for conservation and preservation of national monuments for the last three years are as under:

(Amount Rs. in Lakhs)

| S. No. | Financial Year | Allocated | Expenditure |
|--------|----------------|-----------|-------------|
| 1. | 2018-19 | 40637.86 | 40502.01 |
| 2. | 2019-20 | 43560.68 | 43538.76 |
| 3. | 2020-21 | 26090.00 | 26083.41 |