

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CULTURE
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1343
ANSWERED ON-08/12/2025

SALARY AND ALLOWANCE TO PRIESTS AND MAULVIS

1343. Shri Anil Yeshwant Desai:

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the temple priests in the country are provided with salary and allowance and other facilities by the Government;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) whether there is any such salary etc. are paid by Central and/or State Governments to the Priest of any temple/Maulavi of any Masjid or Priest of any Church, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE AND TOURISM

(SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

- (a) & (b) Archaeological Survey of India (ASI), an attached office of Ministry of Culture, is mandated with conservation, preservation and maintenance of the Centrally Protected Monuments (CPMs), which includes temples as well. However, no salary or allowances are paid by ASI to the priests in such temples.
- (c) No such salary etc. is provided by the Archaeological Survey of India to priests of any temple/ Maulavi of any Masjid, or Priest of any Church.
