

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2142
ANSWERED ON:07.12.2005
UPKEEP OF TAJ MAHAL
Khaire Shri Chandrakant Bhaurao

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the UNESCO has made suggestions for the upkeep of Taj Mahal at Agra and maintenance of its surroundings and environment;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the present status thereof?

Answer

MINISTER FOR URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND CULTURE (SHRI S.JAIPAL REDDY)

(a) & (b) The UNESCO-ICOMOS Joint Monitoring Mission to Taj Mahal, Agra Fort and Fatehpur Sikri visited Agra in January, 2004 and suggested improvements to the surroundings and environment of the Taj Mahal. The mission suggested that the river and the surrounding area within a defined distance from the monument should be cleaned so as to enhance its aesthetics. An extract of the report is annexed.

(c) A consultant has been identified for the preparation of a comprehensive management plan which would address the recommendations of the mission.