

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:406

ANSWERED ON:21.12.2005

MAINTENANCE OF CENTRALLY PROTECTED MONUMENTS

Kharventhan Shri Salarapatty Kuppusamy;Narhire Smt. Kalpana Ramesh

**Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the Government is considering to involve Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) for the maintenance of some of the important Centrally protected monuments;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some of the PUSs have shown interest in this regard;

(d) if so, the details in this regard; and

(e) the details of the Centrally protected monuments proposed to be handed over to PSUs for the purpose?

**Answer**

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

(a)to (e) A statement is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY PART (a) TO (e) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 406 FOR 21.12.2005

Yes, Sir.

The efforts to obtain the cooperation of Public Sector Undertakings for the maintenance of major monuments of Archaeological Survey of India have been under way. As part of this exercise a MoU was executed on 30.3.2001 between National Culture Fund and Archaeological Survey of India on the one hand and Indian Oil Foundation and Indian Oil Corporation on the other for the conservation and development of the following monuments:

1. Qutab Minar, New Delhi.

2. Hampi (Karnataka)

3. Sun Temple, Konarak (Orissa)

4. Kanheri Caves (Maharashtra)

5. Khajuraho Group of Monuments (Madhya Pradesh)

Warangal Fort in Andhra Pradesh was subsequently added to the above list.

In respect of Sun Temple, Konark, a master plan for development prepared by the Tata Consultancy Services was approved, and the job of preparation of the detailed drawings and cost estimates has been entrusted to M/s Srishti Consultants(Conservation Architects) by the Indian Oil Foundation. Further steps will be taken after the detailed cost estimates and drawings are finalized.

The Archaeological Survey of India proposes to involve more Public Sector Undertakings in the conservation and development of

protected monuments. Discussions in this regard are in progress with the Still Authority of India Limited (SAIL) for the development of the Lodhi Garden monuments in Delhi and Elephanta Caves in Mumbai, Maharashtra.

There is no proposal to hand over any of the centrally protected monuments to the Public Sector Undertakings for upkeep and maintenance.