

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2104

ANSWERED ON:07.12.2005

AGRAHAYANA SAKA DAMAGE TO PAINTINGS IN AJANTA CAVES

Gaikwad Shri Eknath Mahadeo;Mane Smt. Nivedita;Singh Shri Kirti Vardhan

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the damage caused to the paintings and other objects in Ajanta Caves due to seepage caused by the heavy rains;
- (b) if so, the extent of damage caused to the paintings; and
- (c) the measures taken for preservation of these paintings and other objects?

Answer

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

- (a)&(b) Heavy rains have caused seepage in some of the caves. However there had been no direct flow over the painted surfaces.
- (c) Concealed drains have been provided at locations having significant seepage of rain water. Further measures for surface water management are being taken up on the basis of the geo-technical studies carried out by the Geological Survey of India.