

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1429
ANSWERED ON:30.11.2006
INSCRIPTIONS ON HISTORICAL MONUMENTS
Khandelwal Shri Vijay Kumar

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government takes any measure to make the people follow the instruction mentioned on the notice boards outside the protected monuments;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI)

(a) to(c) Yes, Sir. Under Rule 8 of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Rules 1959, there is a prohibition of certain acts within the centrally protected monuments whereby no person shall within a protected monument:

- (a) do any act which causes or is likely to cause damage or injury to any part of the monument; or
- (b) discharge any fire-arms; or
- (c) cook or consume food except in areas, if any, permitted to be used for that purpose; or
- (d) hawk or sell any goods or wares or canvass any customer for such goods or wares or display any advertisement in any form or shall take a visitor round or take his photographs for monetary consideration, except under the authority of, or under, and in accordance with the conditions of, a licence granted by an archaeological officer; or
- (e) beg for alms; or
- (f) violate any practice, usage or custom applicable to or observed in the monument; or
- (g) bring, for any purpose other than the maintenance of the monument,
- (i) any animal, or
- (ii) any vehicle except in areas reserved for the parking thereof

In addition except the recognized religious functions consisting of congregations, receptions, parties, conferences or entertainment of the religious nature, all other meetings and conferences, etc., have been prohibited except with the written permission of the Central Government. With a view to ensure strict adherence to the above, under the provision of Rule 9 of the AMASR Rules, 1959, penalties have been provided for persons violating the provisions of the Rules.

In order to create awareness among the general public for the strict adherence of the provision of the above Rule, awareness programme are being organized at the sites/monuments.

The watch and ward staff and security guards deployed at the centrally protected monuments/sites do keep constant vigil on the visitors to ensure that the instructions as contained in the notice boards provided outside the monuments are not violated. Complaints are lodged with the local police, wherever it is needed.