

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5785
ANSWERED ON:17.05.2007
NEW SCHEMES IN 21ST CENTURY
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Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has decided to embrace the 21st century by opting several new methods;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the aim and objectives for such move?

Answer

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

(a) to (c) Modern scientific tools like Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR), Global Positioning System (GPS), Geographical Information System (GIS) etc. are being used by the Archaeological Survey of India in the conservation of monuments and for archaeological excavations. The ASI has a science Branch equipped with a full-fledged laboratory at Dehradun for scientific conservation and material studies. ASI also makes use of the modern scientific facilities available with the IITs and other national institutions.

The application of the new techniques and scientific tools provide better understanding of the problems and their solutions.