

Steps to protect Zafar Mahal, Delhi

2266. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that lot of Centrally protected important monuments in Delhi are under encroachment;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Zafar Mahal in Qutub area, Delhi is on the verge of being demolished by encroachers;

(d) details of steps taken/proposed to be taken to remove encroachments from Centrally protected monuments; and

(e) steps taken to protect and preserve Zafar Mahal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) and (b) Out of 174 Centrally protected monuments in Delhi, the list of 12 monuments under encroachment is given in the Statement (*See* below).

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The encroachments in the protected monuments and protected areas are removed as per the provisions contained in the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958 and Rules, 1959 framed thereunder. Superintending Archaeologists are also authorised to issue show cause notices under the provisions of Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act 1958 and Rules 1959 followed by a direction to the District Collector/Magistrate by Central Government to remove such encroachment under section 19 (2) of the Act and Rule 38 (2). In order to contain the encroachments and removing them, the Superintending Archaeologist in charge of the Circles have been vested with the powers of an Estate Officer to issue eviction notices/orders to the encroachers under Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act, 1971. Further, assistance in such cases is also sought from the respective State Government/Police and where there are no fruitful results actions are initiated against the encroachers by filing cases in the court of law.

(e) Watch and Ward has been provided at the monument and regular maintenance, upkeep is also taken up.

Statement*List of monuments in Delhi which are under encroachment*

Sl. No.	Name of Monument
1.	Nili Masjid, Hauz Khas
2.	Ancient Mosque, Palam
3.	Tughlaqabad Fort
4.	Begumpuri Masjid, Begumpur
5.	Sarai Shahji, Shivalik Malviya Nagar
6.	Joga Bai Mound
7.	Atgah Khan's Tomb, Hazrat Nizamuddin
8.	Qudasia Mosque, Qudasia Garden
9.	Purana Qila
10.	Rajpur (Mutiny) Cemetery Old Rajpur Cantonment, North District
11.	D'Eremao Cemetery, Kishan Ganj
12.	Tomb of Razia Begam in Mohalla Bulbuli Khana, Sahajahanabad

Organisation of festival of India

2267. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Festival of India proposed to be organised in the financial year 2017-18;

(b) the details of the objective with which these festivals are proposed to be organised, country-wise; and

(c) the details of funds earmarked for each of the Festival of India to be organised on international fronts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE AND TOURISM (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) Approval of Festival of India in foreign countries is an ongoing process. Till date, Festivals of India to be organized in the financial year 2017-18, have been approved for the United Kingdom, Israel and Belarus.

(b) Festivals of India are held in foreign countries with objectives including promoting Indian culture, Indian artists and art forms abroad, promoting bilateral cultural contacts and in-bound tourism, projecting India's cultural image abroad and strengthening bonds of foreign countries with India.