

Significant Conservation Works Undertaken by ASI in Maharashtra; Pune Monuments Receive Sustained Support

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There are three ancient monuments of national importance in Pune, namely Shaniwarwada, Aga Khan Palace and Pataleshwar Cave Temple. These are maintained and conserved by Archeological Survey of India (ASI).

Expenditure incurred on these monuments during last three years is given as under:

Year	Expenditure (amount in Lakhs)
2022-23	159.87
2023-24	139.27
2024-25	89.01

There are three circle offices of ASI in Maharashtra, namely, Aurangabad Circle, Mumbai Circle and Nagpur Circle. In 2024-25, Aurangabad Circle had an allocated fund of Rs 5.20 cr, out of which Rs 5.16 cr was utilized. Mumbai Circle utilized Rs 12.56 cr, out of its allocated fund of Rs 12.58 cr, while Nagpur circle utilized its allocated fund of Rs 6.80 crore, in 2024-25.

There are 3685 Centrally Protected Monuments/Sites under the jurisdiction of Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) across the country including Maharashtra. The conservation, restoration, preservation including maintenance of these monuments/sites is taken up as per the need of monument/sites and availability of resources as per the National Policy for Conservation.

There is no proposal under consideration at present to involve local educational institutions and civic bodies in heritage conservation projects. However, local school and educational institutions are being involved in heritage awareness programmes organized by ASI on the occasions of world heritage week and world heritage day and other important occasions.

Multi Tasking Staff has been posted for watch and ward at protected monuments and sites. Further, at selected monuments; private security personnel as well as CISF are deployed to safe guard the monuments and sites. Further; periodic inspections are carried out by ASI officials.

This was stated in a written reply by Union Culture and Tourism Minister Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat at the Rajya Sabha today.

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