

Ancient Monuments Remains Act, 1958

Section 16 - Protection of Place of Worship from Misuse, Pollution or Desecration

(1) A protected monument maintain by the Central Government under this Act which is a place of worship or shrine shall not be used for any purpose inconsistent with its character.

(2) Where the Central Government has acquired a protected monument under section 13, or where the Director-General has purchased, or taken a lease or accepted a gift or bequest or assumed guardianship of, a protected monument under section 5, and such monument or any part the derives used for religious worship or observances by any community, the Collector hall make due provisions for the protection of such monument or part thereof, from pollution or desecration--

(a) by prohibiting the entry therein, except in accordance with the conditions prescribed with the concurrence of the persons, if any, in religious charge of the said monument or part thereof, of any person not entitled so to enter by the religious usages of the community by which the monument or part thereof is used, or

(b) by taking such other action as he may think necessary in this behalf.
