

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
TOURISM AND CULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1988  
ANSWERED ON:09.03.2006  
LISTING OF MONUMENTS BY UNESCO AS DANGER  
Sugavanam Shri E.G.

**Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether UNESCO has listed some of the monuments in the country as 'danger';
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any meeting was held with UNESCO on the issue;
- (d) if so, the outcome thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to protect the sanctity of such monuments in the country?

**Answer**

MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND CULTURE (SMT. AMBIKA SONI)

- (a) Yes Sir, the Group of Monuments at Hampi under the jurisdiction of Bangalore circle of Archaeological Survey of India has been inscribed as World Heritage site in Danger by UNESCO.
- (b) Following the construction of two bridges viz., a foot-bridge across River Tungabhadra near Virupaksha Temple and another cable-stayed bridge across River Tungabhadra near Anegundi, the Group of Monuments at Hampi was included under the endangered list by the UNESCO in 1999.
- (c) After the inscription of the site in the endangered list, a series of UNESCO Missions have visited Hampi and suggested various measures to be implemented by the State parties for deletion of the Heritage Site from the endangered list.
- (d) The major recommendations of the UNESCO include:
  - 1. Removal of the foot bridge across River Tungabhadra near Virupaksha temple.
  - 2. Construction of a bypass road along the River Tungabhadra connecting the existing Venkatapura Road so as to curb vehicular traffic into the heritage zone.
  - 3. Constitution of Hampi World Heritage Area Management Authority to exclusively manage the heritage site.
  - 4. Preparation of Integrated Site management Plan.
- (e) In accordance with the UNESCO recommendations, the state parties have taken the following action in respect of Hampi:
  - (a) Removed the foot-bridge.
  - (b) Constructed a bypass road across River Tungabhadra and erected necessary height barriers.
  - (c) Constituted a separate authority viz., Hampi World Heritage Area Management Authority to exclusively manage the affairs of Hampi.
  - (d) Conducted Stakeholders Meeting.
  - (e) The draft Site Management Plan has been submitted to the UNESCO.