

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4764
ANSWERED ON:08.12.2010
SHANTINIKETAN IN WORLD HERITAGES
Muttamwar Shri Vilas Baburao;Shetkar Shri Suresh Kumar

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) has examined the request of the Government to nominate Shantiniketan as India's official entry for World Heritage sites;
- (b) if so, the decision of the UNESCO in the matter;
- (c) whether the UNESCO team visited Viswabharati recently; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the purpose of their visit?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI V. NARAYANSAMY)

- (a) &(b) Yes, Sir. The decision of UNESCO is pending and will be confirmed during the 35th session of the World Heritage Committee meeting to be held in Bahrain in 2011.
- (c)&(d) An official from ICOMOS (International Council on Monuments and Sites), on behalf of UNESCO, visited Viswabharati to examine the proposal in relation to the nomination dossier submitted to UNESCO. ICOMOS will submit the report to the World Heritage Centre.