

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1217

ANSWERED ON:29.11.2011

HERITAGE BODY TO IDENTIFY MONUMENTS

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

- (a) whether the Government has constituted an Advisory Committee on World Heritage Matters to identify monuments in the country that can be recommended to the UNESCO for inclusion in the World Heritage Site List;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the said Committee has identified any monuments in the country recently;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (e) the criteria for inclusion in the World Heritage Site List;
- (f) whether any monuments/ site in the State of Odisha has been identified for recommendation to the said Authority; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (KUMARI SELJA)

(a)to (d) The Government has constituted an Advisory Committee on World Heritage matter on 1.11.2011 with terms of reference as under:-

(i) To review the Tentative List of Heritage Sites of India on UNESCO List and make recommendations for suitable addition/deletion in order that the Tentative List becomes more representative of sites suitable for inscription, and likely to be taken up in the next 5 to 7 years.

(ii) To consider and recommend heritage Sites for nomination for inscription on World Heritage List, taking into account both the universal outstanding value of the site and the quality of nomination dossier.

(iii) To consider and recommend for approval with or without modifications, every nomination dossier (as a quality assurance exercise) before such a dossier is submitted to WHC for inscription on World Heritage List.

(iv) To review and recommend a list of sites suitable for nomination in the next 3 to 4 years, along with the approaches to be taken in nomination dossiers and possible list of consultants whose services could be engaged for preparing the dossier in each case.

(v) To review the existing Site Management Plan (SMP) and to give suitable recommendations for implementation of existing SMP's and development of SMP's for other Sites where none exist.

(vi) To undertake special reviews and give recommendations on time-bound actions to be taken in respect of management of World Heritage Sites in danger, if any.

The first meeting of the Advisory Committee is scheduled to be held shortly.

(e) The procedures, including criteria, for inscription on the World Heritage Sites List are contained in the 'Operational Guidelines for the implementation of World Heritage Convention' issued by the Inter-Governmental Committee for the protection of world cultural and natural heritage, under the aegis of UNESCO. These are available at UNESCO website and can be downloaded from the following link:

<http://whc.unesco.org/archive/opguide08-en.pdf>

(f)&(g) There is no such proposal under the consideration of the Government, at this stage.