

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5134
ANSWERED ON:08.05.2012
CONSERVATION OF VIKRAMSHILA
Hussain Shri Syed Shahnawaz

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the state of preservation of the ancient site of the Vikramshila Mahavihara in Bihar;
- (b) whether the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has taken steps to restore and develop the said site;
- (c) if so, the details thereof including the steps taken for the upkeep and maintenance of the site;
- (d) whether the Government has nominated the said site for declaration as UNESCO World Heritage Site; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

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

- (a)to(c) The ancient site of Vikramshila Mahavihara in Bihar is a protected monument of Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) and is in a good state of preservation. The conservation and maintenance work of the monuments is a continuous process and it is attended at this site also on regular basis depending upon the need of repairs and availability of resources.
- (d)&(e) Vikramshila Mahavihara is one of the prominent Silk Road Sites in India and it is currently on UNESCO's Tentative List.