

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6229
ANSWERED ON:15.05.2012
NATIONAL HERITAGE COMMISSION SMT JYOTI DHURVE
Dhurve Jyoti

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is considering to establish a National Commission on Heritage Sites;
- (b) if so, the details alongwith the mandate thereof; and
- (c) the progress made in this regard?

Answer

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

(a), (b) & (c) : The National Commission for Heritage Sites Bill, 2009 inter-alia provides for establishment of a National Commission for Heritage Sites (NCHS). The Bill was introduced in the Rajya Sabha in February 2009 and was referred to Standing Parliamentary Committee which submitted its Report to the Chairman, Rajya Sabha in November 2009. The comments/suggestions/recommendations made by the Standing Parliamentary Committee have been examined in consultation with various concerned Ministries and other stake-holders such as the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Archaeological Survey of India, the Indian National Trust of Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH) and experts from the civil society. The official amendments to the NCHS Bill 2009 are being finalized.

The National Commission for Heritage Sites to be established under the new legislation will inter-alia have the mandate to recommend to the Central Government or State Governments on short and long term policies in respect of conservation, protection and management of heritage sites and formulation of guidelines for conservation and management of heritage sites.