

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1513  
ANSWERED ON:21.08.2012  
HERITAGE SITES IN NORTH EASTERN STATES  
Toppo Shri Joseph

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

- (a) the number and locations of the cultural heritage centres and heritage sites identified in the North Eastern States, particularly, in Assam;
- (b) the arrangement made for their protection and conservation by the Union Government;
- (c) the details of funds allocated/spent during the last three years and the current year for the maintenance of such sites, State-wise;
- (d) whether any fresh proposal has been received from the State Government of Assam for heritage conservation in Majuli Island; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

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

(a) There is no provision under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958 and Rules, 1959 to declare or recognize cultural heritage centres and heritage sites. However, Archaeological Survey of India looks after 82 monuments/sites that are declared as of national importance under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958 in the North Eastern States, out of which 55 monuments/sites are in Assam. The list is at Annexure.

(b) The conservation, preservation and maintenance of monuments is an ongoing process. Every year review of the status of monuments/sites of the ASI declared as of national importance is taken up. A number of monuments are identified for taking up structural repairs of special nature. The conservation programme is drawn up accordingly and funds are provided for the same. For sustained preservation of the remaining sites/monuments, routine maintenance comprising removal of vegetation, maintenance, minor repair works such as patch plastering, pointing, water-tightening, masonry, etc. is also taken up.

(c) The expenditure incurred on conservation, preservation and maintenance of centrally protected monuments/sites in north-eastern states (State-wise) during the last three years and the current year is as under:

Rupees in lakhs

Name of State    2009-10    2010-11    2011-12    2012-13 (upto July, 2012)

Assam	117.60	141.77	200.52	26.08
Arunachal Pradesh	0.70	6.65	11.75	2.55
Meghalaya	4.71	1.90	1.60	
Tripura	27.23	36.75	42.44	4.79
Nagaland	1.50	2.87	1.00	
Manipur	0.60	0.50		
Sikkim	84.90	66.04	22.41	2.19

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.