

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2513

ANSWERED ON:12.03.2013

UNESCO S WORLD HERITAGE LIST

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Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the norms/criteria for inclusion of any historical site/ city/ university/ monument and intangible cultural heritage in the UNESCO's World Heritage list and the details of historical sites/monuments of the country included in the said list;

(b) the details of proposals received from the States and submitted by the Government to the UNESCO for according World Heritage status to various heritage cities/ sites/monuments and Nalanda University as well as intangible cultural heritage along with the present status of each of such proposals;

(c) whether a team of the UNESCO and the World Bank visited the said heritage cities/sites in the recent past;

(d) if so, the outcome of the said visit; and

(e) the reasons for the delay in according approval by UNESCO and the steps taken/being taken by the Government for expeditious inclusion of these cities/ sites/ monuments/universities as well as intangible cultural heritages in the World Heritage List?

Answer

MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRIMATI CHANDRESH KUMARI KATOCH)

(a) The criteria for inscription of a site/element in the World Heritage List of UNESCO is at Annexure I. The sites/elements included in the World Heritage List of UNESCO is at Annexure II.

(b) Nomination dossiers on Hill Forts of Rajasthan, Qutb Shahi Monuments of Hyderabad, Majuli Island and Rani-Ki-Vav under cultural category and the Great Himalayan National Park under Natural Category have been submitted to the World Heritage Centre (WHC). The list of nominations related to intangible elements submitted to UNESCO is given at Annexure III.

(c)&(d) ICOMOS Mission to the Qutb Shahi Monuments of Hyderabad and the IUCN Mission to the Great Himalayan National Park had visited sites for evaluation. The ICOMOS Advisory Mission to Hill Forts of Rajasthan visited Jaipur in November, 2012 and advised for inclusion of Jaisalmer Fort in the nomination. The revised nomination has been sent to the WHC.

(e) Inscription of a site in the World Heritage List is a long and scheduled process. Further, WHC/UNESCO considers only one nomination under each category in a given year from a State Party.